

Peres's talks with W. Bank promoters confirmed

By DAVID RICHARDSON

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Peres met representatives of a group of prominent American Jewish and Arab businessmen who are trying to promote industrial investment in the West Bank during his visit to New York this month, the Prime Minister's Office confirmed yesterday.

Visiting U.S. Under-Secretary of State Michael Armacost acknowledged the existence of the group, stressed that it is a private initiative.

Peres met with Howard Squadron, a lawyer and former president of the American Jewish Congress, former chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and with Jeeb Halaby, a prominent pan-American businessman and father of Queen Noor of Jordan.

The meeting was arranged by the former secretary of state Cyrus Vance, according to officials in Jerusalem. Vance is apparently among the prime movers of the group, which has been active for more than a year.

As reported in The Jerusalem Post last week, a party of five West Bank Palestinians was in the U.S. last week under the auspices of the group to promote industrial development and other projects. The five represented the Arab industrial and agricultural sectors, higher education and the local authorities in the West Bank.

Officials in the Prime Minister's Office said that "Peres listened to Halaby," who stressed that he himself "is not part of the group." They noted that Peres "views positively any effort made to improve the qual-

Philippine general, 6 soldiers to be tried in Aquino slaying

MANILA. - President Ferdinand Marcos yesterday ordered the immediate prosecution of an air force general and six soldiers after the chairwoman of an investigative panel named them as suspects in the airport slaying of opposition leader Benigno Aquino.

Another report from the majority on the five-member probe board was expected today, and sources have said it will allege an even broader conspiracy involving Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fabian Ver and 25 others.

Retired Judge Corazon Agrava, who led a commission of inquiry into the killing of the arch political of President Ferdinand Marcos, said Brigadier-General Luther Custodio

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The weather at major Swissair destinations

	23.10.84	MIN.	MAX.
AMSTERDAM	12	8	16
BRUSSELS	12	8	16
BUENOS AIRES	14	7	21
CHICAGO	14	14	87
COPENHAGEN	10	8	12
FRANKFURT	10	8	12
GENEVA	14	13	15
HELSINKI	14	13	15
HONG KONG	22	12	28
JOHANNESBURG	17	13	21
LONDON	11	8	14
LYON	11	8	14
MADRID	14	13	15
MONTREAL	14	13	15
NEW YORK	14	13	15
OSLO	14	13	15
PARIS	14	13	15
RENO	14	13	15
SAO PAULO	14	13	15
STOCKHOLM	14	13	15
TORONTO	14	13	15
VIENNA	14	13	15
ZURICH	14	13	15

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Clear, dry, inland.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max
Jerusalem	14	17-24	24
Golan	14	16-25	24
Nahariya	14	13-24	24
Safed	14	13-24	24
Haifa Port	14	16-25	24
Tiberias	14	13-27	27
Nazareth	14	13-24	24
Atula	14	13-24	24
Sharm	14	13-24	24
Tel Aviv	14	13-24	24
B-G Airport	14	13-24	24
Jericho	14	13-24	24
Gaza	14	13-24	24
Beersheva	14	13-24	24
Eilat	14	13-24	24

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

A group of West German bankers' wives, accompanied by Mrs. Niels Hansen, wife of the German ambassador, attended a luncheon yesterday held by Raya Jaglom, president of World Wizo, and by Michal Mod'a'i, chairwoman of the World Wizo Executive, at Beit Heuss, Herzliya Pituh.

A UJA mission from Richmond, Virginia, including Virginia attorney-general and Mrs. Gerald Bailes visited the Weizmann Institute of Science and met with Prof. Asher Friesem and Lee Segal on Monday.

The secretary of the Haifa Chamber of Commerce, Arye Mehoulal, will speak on Economic Recovery Programmes at the weekly meeting of the Haifa Rotary Club at the Nof Hotel at 1 p.m. today.

Dr. William Klassen, dean of the Inter-Faith Academy of Peace, will inaugurate the 1984-85 series of Tanur lectures at the Ecumenical Institute, Hebron Road, Jerusalem, tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. Tea will be served at 3:45 p.m.

ARRIVALS

Phyllis Sotker, National President of Pioneer Women/Na'ama, U.S.A., to attend meetings of the Jewish Agency Executive and the opening session of the Women's Studies Programme at Haifa University.

U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg (Democrat, New Jersey), a past president of the United Jewish Appeal in the U.S., to receive an honorary degree from the Technion in Haifa.

Fast-mail rates up

TEL AVIV (Him). - The Ministry of Communications yesterday announced an immediate increase of 12.6 per cent in rates for its quick mail to the U.S. and facsimile services.

Quick mail to the U.S. weighing up to half a kilogram now costs IS11,000 and IS16,000 for packages weighing up to one kilogram. Each additional kilogram will result in a further charge of IS4,500.

Facsimile transmissions now cost IS4,200 per page to Europe, IS5,200 per page to the U.S. and IS6,300 to all other countries.

Actor Oskar Werner, 61

MARBURG, West Germany (Reuters). - Austrian actor Oskar Werner died of a heart attack yesterday after cancelling a lecture in the West German town of Marburg Monday because he was feeling ill.

Werner, 61, was a highly acclaimed theatre actor in Austria and other German-speaking countries in the 1940s and became known internationally after starring in several films in the 1950s and 60s, such as *Jules et Jim* by French director Francois Truffaut, who himself died on Sunday.

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October 24, 1984

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HOME NEWS

Mayors plead poverty, but no aid from Peres

By MICHAEL EILAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Peres met yesterday with a group of mayors but did not offer them any real help to ease the increasingly difficult financial straits of the country's local authorities.

A source present at the meeting said last night that all the mayor's requests for immediate help were rejected by Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, who also attended the meeting. Peres finally promised that the cabinet would debate implementation of the Sanbar report on the local authorities in two weeks.

The meeting took place as a growing number of local authorities are being struck by workers who are not being paid on time. The authorities cannot pay salaries principally because of the cost of servicing their debts to commercial banks.

The Sanbar committee recommendations, issued six years ago and never implemented, calls for allowing local authorities to raise a much higher proportion of their budgets through local taxes.

Jerusalem's mayor Teddy Kollek told the meeting that the government should take steps to end the authorities' dependence on the banks and to allow them some work-

ing capital. In addition, he said, the government must change the way it funnels money to the local authorities. A large part of this money is for items the local authorities provide as the government's sub-contractors, such as teachers' salaries. But much of this money is not delivered on time, which pushes the localities even further into debt.

These suggestions and others in the Sanbar report, were firmly rejected by Moda'i, who said they were "not relevant," one source said.

Meanwhile, Ramle municipal workers went back to work yesterday afternoon just a few hours after they called a one-day strike. The strike was called because they had not been paid salaries for last month, but money from the Interior Ministry came through in the afternoon.

David Rudge adds: Adit local council workers walked out yesterday because they had not received their September salaries. The 60 workers, including kindergarten assistants, complained that it is not the first time that their wages have been delayed.

Local Council Chairman Mordechai Amar said he does not have any money and there is "no chance" of taking more loans from a bank.

Jemayel sees Italian leaders

ROME. - Lebanese President Amin Jemayel yesterday followed up a trip to Libya by arriving in Rome on a hastily arranged one-day visit to see Italian leaders and Pope John Paul. Italian officials said he would meet Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti and Prime Minister Bettino Craxi before going on to the Vatican. He was due to leave Italy last night.

Officials could say little about the purpose of the Lebanese leader's visit, but said they would be glad to see him.

Little was known here of what Jemayel discussed with Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi. The official Libyan news agency Jana did not explain the reason for the visit. Relations between the two countries have been strained since Lebanon signed its abortive troop-withdrawal agreement with Israel in May 1983.

Meanwhile artillery duels raged

early yesterday on the hills overlooking Beirut. The police said Lebanese Army troops and Druse militiamen clashed with field artillery, tank cannons and multiple rocket launchers around the hilltop town of Souk al-Gharb shortly after midnight. There were no casualty reports from the fighting area above the former base near Beirut Airport.

However, calm returned yesterday to the Palestinian refugee camp of Bourj al-Barajneh in Beirut's southern suburbs, where seven persons were killed in 24 hours of sporadic fighting.

It was still unclear how the clashes began overnight Sunday to Monday and who was involved. Security sources said Monday the fighting was between supporters and opponents of PLO chief Yasser Arafat. (AP, Reuters).

Iraqi president invites Mubarak to visit

CAIRO (AP). - President Hosni Mubarak said yesterday Iraqi President Hosni Mubarak has invited him to visit Iraq.

Mubarak told reporters the invitation was extended during a telephone conversation he had with Hussein on Monday.

The Egyptian leader said he initiated the phone call to inquire how Iraqi forces were faring in the latest intensified round of fighting with Iran.

Mubarak did not say if he plans to visit Iraq and did not say whether the conversation with Hussein touched

on the ruptured diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Mubarak also said Egypt will reassess the Middle East situation after the U.S. presidential election next month to determine the best way of reviving stalled Arab-Israeli peace efforts.

Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan left Egypt last night after a tour of Sinai during which he expressed optimism on the future of the region.

Hassan was the first non-Egyptian Arab official to visit Sinai since Israel returned it to Egypt in April 1982.

Barak ruling queried in terror trial

A defence advocate in the Jewish terror trial, Dan Avi-Yitzhak, yesterday questioned Supreme Court Justice Aharon Barak's ruling that the General Security Services did not know the identity of the alleged perpetrators of the attack on the Arab mayors before its interrogation of suspects involved in the planting of bombs on Arab buses.

The attacks on the Arab mayors took place in 1980, and the buses were booby-trapped early this year.

Barak's ruling followed defence counsels' petition to the High Court of Justice asking that banned GSS investigation material be admitted in the trial.

Avi-Yitzhak, speaking yesterday behind closed doors in the Jerusalem District Court, said Barak may not have been given all the relevant material. He cited the interrogation of Yehuda Etzion, during which the GSS investigators agreed to exchange their list of persons involved in the attacks with Etzion's. GSS interrogators promised Etzion that if the names he gave them were not previously known to them, those he

named would not be prosecuted.

Avi-Yitzhak said the GSS arrested Yitzhak Novik and Hagai Segal, whom Etzion had named, thus breaking the agreement.

Two GSS investigators, one identified as "Abu Sherif" and the other as "Meni," testified during yesterday's session on their interrogation tactics.

"Meni" said the GSS had promised the accused that if they admit to the charges imputed to them, they would be permitted to meet in order to formulate a joint defence, and would be imprisoned together.

He said that when the accused were told that the charges were serious, some of them said that the matter was taken care of, and that within a few months of the trial they would be at liberty, since they had connections.

During yesterday's session, the defendants alleged that the GSS is blocking prison leaves granted some of them and using other means in its power to punish them for the defence tack they are taking.

W. BANK PROMOTERS

(Continued from Page One)
and the improvement of the financial situation of the West Bank institutes of higher learning, said the official.

Wolf Blitzer adds from Washington:

Members of the "Business Group for Middle East Peace and Development," organized by Professor Steve Cohen of Queen's College in New York, include Lester Crown of Chicago, the chief executive of General Dynamics; Jay Pritzker of Chicago, the owner of the Hyatt Hotel chain and other businesses; New York banker Steve Shalom; businessmen Robert Arnow, Robert Steinberg and Larry Tisch of New York; and Henry Kaufman, a Wall Street economist.

Other Jews include Washington attorney Alfred Moses; former B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League executive director Arnold Forster; former World Jewish Congress president Philip Klutznick; and Howard Squadron.

There is an equally impressive group of Arab Americans supporting the group, including former Pan Am president Halaby; Bill Baroody, the head of the American Enterprise Institute in Washington; and Zahi Khouri and Joe Jacobs, both wealthy businessmen.

The concept is that people who have "something to lose" will not engage in terrorism.

The group is also trying to encourage Jordan's King Hussein and other Arabs to join the peace process with Israel. Well-informed sources yesterday said Hussein privately supports the group, although quietly, out of fear of angering radical Arabs.

According to informed sources, U.S., Israeli and Jordanian officials agree that this group, composed of private American citizens, may be able to undertake certain delicate diplomatic responsibilities that none of the governments is yet prepared to do.

In the short run, the group also wants to promote a new and independent West Bank Arab political leadership that would not necessarily take its cue from the PLO.

MUBARAK. - A visit to Greece by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak set for November 5 to 8 has been postponed because it coincides with trips by the Greek prime minister, the Greek government said yesterday. Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu is due to visit Syria and Jordan from November 8 to 12.

'Government plan won't stem inflation'

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

The economic plan adopted by Prime Minister Shimon Peres's government yesterday is unlikely to lower inflation economic experts on Treasury Director-General Emmanuel Sharon's committee said. "There is simply no mechanism to prevent prices from going up," they said.

The plan was one of the alternatives presented by the task force headed by Sharon and appointed to prepare a comprehensive economic plan. The second scheme, rejected by the ministers, was based on a semi-dollarization that would have pegged the economy to the dollar while leaving the shekel as legal tender.

The plan was presented yesterday evening at a meeting Peres convened of the ministers appointed to the Social and Economic, the body cre-

ated early this month together with the Histadrut and the private employers to discuss an economic package deal.

The ministers at the meeting included Industry and Trade Minister Sharon, Minister without Portfolio Ezer Weizman, Housing Minister David Levy, Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi and Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i. Bank of Israel Governor Moshe Mandelbaum also attended.

Treasury officials yesterday expressed serious doubts about the chances that the ministers will approve the budget cuts the Treasury wishes to implement.

The officials also predicted that the government will have to fight an uphill battle to persuade the Histadrut to agree to any of its proposals.

According to economic observers in Jerusalem, the government will have to try very hard to convince the

labour federation to accept a package deal that includes a rapid erosion of wages and a programme of extensive lay-offs in the public sector.

The observers pointed out that the Histadrut leadership is facing elections in six months and that therefore it is unrealistic to expect it to agree to the proposed deal.

After hearing the economic experts, the ministers agreed to adopt the "shekel plan" drafted by Amnon Gafni and Moshe Sanbar, both former governors of the central bank.

The ministers preferred the "shekel plan" since it will entail the devaluation needed to help solve the country's balance-of-payments problem.

The *Jerusalem Post* has learned that the "shekel plan" was adopted against the advice of most of the four economic experts from the Sharon committee.

One of the committee members

said the "shekel plan" was adopted out of political considerations. "From an economic point of view there was no question at all that the pegging of the economy to the dollar for a limited period of time would have been preferable," he said.

By political considerations, the experts were alluding to the association that the semi-dollarization plan could have with former finance minister Yoram Aridor, a political foe of Moda'i, Ya'acobi and Mandelbaum.

The experts stressed that semi-dollarization would have forced the government to cut the budget, to solve the balance of payments problems. "Since that would have precluded the use of the devaluation the ministers would have been left with virtually no choice but to slash public-sector expenditure if they wanted to prevent a worsening in the balance-of-payments situation."

Ya'acobi for new currency

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Economics and Planning Minister Gad Ya'acobi yesterday proposed changing the Israeli currency. Speaking at a meeting of senior executives of Histadrut undertakings, he stressed that he was speaking for himself and not for the entire cabinet, and he added the proviso that this change should be instituted only when "inflation is brought under control."

He further stressed that neither he nor anyone else has worked out an exact method for replacing the shekel. "But in noway or form I am suggesting dollarization," he emphasized.

Reporting on the Jerusalem meeting of the inner economic cabinet earlier in the day, he said that the representatives of the government, Histadrut and the Manufacturers Association at the package-deal negotiations "should enter continuous or semi-continuous session starting today. And they should reach an agreement by this Sunday

at the latest," he said, adding that "the situation has never been more serious."

However, he pointed out that the package deal would only be the first step, and "if additional and complementary steps are not taken concurrently, the inflationary volcano will soon erupt in a raging fury."

These steps, including the paring away of another \$500m from the government's budget (beyond the \$1 billion already earmarked for cutting), as well as many other economizing measures will improve the adverse balance of payments, reduce the external debt, build up foreign currency reserves, balance the national budget and bring hyperinflation to a standstill.

Ya'acobi promised that "if it is in my power, the public's savings will not be touched nor will the terms of those savings be worsened." If anything, Ya'acobi wants to sop up money from the public by formulating more attractive savings terms.

TOP MONEYMEN

(Continued from Page One)

no idea whether interest rates will rise or fall next month, or by how much. The rate of inflation is a matter for inspired guesswork, and the result is that no one knows what may represent a "real" rate of interest.

One banker told *The Jerusalem Post* that "there is an idea floating around that the banks should retroactively charge a prime rate of 1 per cent above whatever number the November price index turns out to be, but don't ask me how this can be implemented. Furthermore, what rate of interest will we pay our depositors during the month?"

The banks want a clear monetary policy from the Bank of Israel, and everyone wants the government to implement an overall policy to bring down inflation before inflation

brings them and it down.

Almost everyone agrees that the most important step is for the government to slash its own spending and that any package deal on wages, prices and taxes can only be a supporting measure to this. But the hopes pinned on the national unity government are rapidly evaporating, as the days drag on without a real start on saving the economy.

RELATIONS. - The U.S. Information Service (USIS) has reopened its office in Baghdad after 26 years of closure since the 1958 revolution, which toppled the Iraqi monarch. Diplomats in Baghdad said this was a prelude to the restoration of diplomatic relations between Iraq and the U.S., severed in 1967 after the Six Day War.

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Mayor Teddy Kollek, Hebron leader Rabbi Moshe Levinger and Knesset Member Rabbi Meir Kahane also attended.

The story of the murder was available Monday, but the military censor's office in Jerusalem refused to permit its publication.

The murder story goes back to Saturday night, Jibrin, who has a criminal record and recently returned from a visit to Jordan, was working at the JVI at his guard job. He reported to the police that robbers had stolen some property from the institute and named two men from Dehaishe as the robbers.

On Sunday morning, JVI authorities found that IS60,000 in cash had been stolen along with a Galil rifle owned by a yeshiva heder student who works at the institute. A handwritten note found in the cashbox said: "Thank you, Israel - Fatah."

Bethlehem policemen went to Dehaishe Sunday to question the two men named by Jibrin. After lengthy questioning, Superintendent Danny Barzilai concluded that they were innocent.

Barzilai then went searching for Jibrin, but he was not at home.

On Monday evening, Barzilai re-

turned to Dehaishe accompanied by other officers and security forces personnel to question Jibrin.

The apparent innocence of the two men, combined with the note found in the cashbox, had aroused their suspicions. But on Monday evening at 6 p.m., when the police knocked on Jibrin's door, they still didn't know there had been a double murder.

Within a few minutes of the questioning of Jibrin, the policemen discovered the missing Galil rifle in his house and found that four bullets had been fired.

But when Jibrin claimed to have murdered two Israelis, the police at first didn't believe him.

"I'll show you where they are," he said.

They drove to the Cremona winery and parked near a brand new automobile they later learned belonged to Levy.

For 20 minutes they hiked through the wadi, as the dusk turned into darkness, finally reaching the bottom of the valley.

And there, tied to a tree, were the two hikers.

The police say Jibrin told them

Private-sector wages to be negotiated this week

By ROY ISACOWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - The Histadrut and the private employers will meet later this week to re-examine the private-sector wage agreement in the light of the wage erosion. Histadrut sources said yesterday.

Histadrut Trade Union Department chairman Haim Haberfeld said the sides would negotiate on the compensation due private sector workers for the wage erosion over the past six months. The two-year agreement, which was signed last April, provided for a review in October.

Haberfeld added that the Histadrut's statistics showed considerable wage erosion over the past six months, even taking into account this month's cost-of-living allowance. According to Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar, wages have eroded by an average of 20 per cent in the past two months alone.

A spokesman for the Coordinating Bureau of Economic Organizations, representing the private sector employers, told *The Jerusalem Post* that the employers were also preparing statistics for the forthcoming talks, though he declined to reveal details.

Histadrut officials stressed that the review was entirely unconnected with the package deal negotiations between the government, the employers and the Histadrut. Haberfeld said that the compensation the Histadrut would demand for wage erosion would not be an element in package-deal negotiations.

However, several Histadrut sources conceded that it will be difficult to keep the review and the package-deal negotiations separate, and agreed that the employers are not likely to agree to pay further compensation before the package deal is implemented.

HISTADRUT

(Continued from Page One)

any plan to dismiss civil servants be discussed with the Histadrut and the Civil Servants Union first.

Work committee representatives of several large concerns held an emergency meeting in Ashdod yesterday to discuss the economic crisis and the government's plans. They decided to seek a meeting with Kessar before the end of the week.

Among those participating were members of the Ratings Union, the Maritime Officers Union, the Port Workers Union and the Bezek telecommunications company. The participants stressed that the meeting, though not held under the auspices of the Histadrut, was not an expression of dissatisfaction with the labour federation.

Labour council secretaries from the north of the country concluded an emergency meeting yesterday with a call on the government to impose an immediate freeze on prices, profits and wages, to establish a price-control apparatus, to increase taxes on the self-employed and to wage all-out war on the black market and tax evasion.

Eli Hurvitz, president of the Manufacturers' Association, yesterday welcomed the government's proposal for opening negotiations on a package deal. However, he said that the success of any such agreement depends not only on the goodwill of all parties but also on setting up effective supervisory bodies to see that neither prices nor wages are actually raised.

DEHAISHE MAN

that first he had the woman, Seri, tie up Levy and then, holding the weapon on her, he tied her up. He said he covered their heads with some rags and shot one bullet, point blank, into each of their heads.

Police sources in the Southern District yesterday said that there was no robbery or rape attempt, and that this strengthens the belief that the murders were committed for political motives.

Turgeman said yesterday that police are sure that the motive was political - that the victims were killed because they were Jews. But he added that it is still not known if Jibrin belonged to a hostile organization.

The Council of Jewish Settlement in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District yesterday sent telegrams to the Defence Ministry, the Prime Minister's Office and to military commanders in Judea demanding the demolition of the first three rows of houses by the road in the Dehaishe refugee camp. They said "the

anarchic atmosphere" in the camp led to the murders, and that they are holding the government responsible.

Senior police sources in Judea and in the Southern District yesterday said they expect tighter security in the areas in the coming days to prevent acts of revenge.

Aaron Sittner writes: At the Knesset yesterday, Tehiya's Rafael Eitan, former chief of general staff, said: "The shocking murder of the student couple by a terrorist proves once again where the policy of restraint on Arab attacks against Jews leads. Those attacks begin with stone-throwing incidents and end with murder."

"We need a strong policy against these terrorists, and the residents of the Dehaishe camp must be moved away from the Jerusalem-Hebron road. And we must re-examine the question of capital punishment for terrorists."

NRP will leave unless it gets two ministries

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Peres yesterday again deferred his decision about the disposition of the Religious Affairs and Interior Ministries after National Religious Party leaders threatened to withdraw from the government if they are not awarded both portfolios.

Meanwhile, Shas retracted its own threat to leave the coalition if it does not receive either of the ministries. This move came after party leaders had talks with their Council of Torah Sages.

Peres and Vice Premier Shamir met yesterday evening at the Knesset for nearly an hour at Shamir's request to discuss the coalition and the functioning of the cabinet, including the problem of a portfolio for Shas.

Shas leader Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz reported to the Council of Torah Sages the details of his meeting with Likud ministers on Monday and passed on the Likud's request to defer the decision for a few days.

"The council at first wanted to limit the extension to a few days, but, after hearing the Likud's request to allow them to unravel the tangle they have got into over the Interior and Religious Affairs Ministries, agreed not to give us a deadline. However, the council insisted that the extension be a short one," Peretz told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

The Shas leader would not say whether he would consider taking any other ministry if he is offered one.

The NRP's Yosef Burg, Zevulun Hammer and Yehuda Ben-Meir yesterday explained to Peres and other Alignment leaders that they would not countenance the Religious Affairs Ministry's being given to a non-Zionist party.

They said that they had agreed to deposit both portfolios with the prime minister to enable the formation of a national unity government and are even willing to do without a deputy minister. This, when other parties with only two mandates received a minister and were promised a deputy minister, they said.

As for the Interior Ministry, they said, it is inconceivable that it should be run by anyone else, for the Religious Affairs Ministry is actually a department of the Interior Ministry and only for ideological reasons did the NRP decide to make it a separate agency, they said.

Ben-Meir suggested that Peres postpone the decision on the two ministries for a month, until the economic pressure is somewhat relieved, and urged him not to submit to pressure and ultimatums by Shas.

Peres promised the NRP not to take any action until he has met again with them, together with other Labour Party ministers.

Asked about possible negotiations with Shas, and the reports that they have already met privately with Shas representatives, NRP sources firmly denied that any contacts with Shas have taken place or will take place.

"That report was an out and out lie. We have not met with them, nor is any meeting with them planned," a senior NRP source said.

Minister to fight to preserve demobilized soldiers' benefits

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tzur announced yesterday that he will vigorously oppose the government's plan to revoke the Demobilized Soldiers' Law, passed just before the elections in July.

The law grants customs, housing, educational and vocational help to demobilized soldiers.

The law was proposed by former deputy minister in the prime minister's office, Knesset Member Dov Shilansky of Herut, who in the previous government was in charge of encouraging emigration. Shilansky had argued that young men would be tempted to emigrate if they found

themselves without a home or a job when they were demobilized.

Tzur said that there is a danger of increased emigration in a period of economic recession and unemployment. Support for demobilized soldiers — moral as well as financial — can counter this trend, he said.

The Absorption Ministry will help demobilized soldiers find jobs and obtain vocational training, and it will help find housing for those without families, Tzur said.

The minister said that studies show that the period right after discharge from military service is critical in the life of young persons. It is then that they decide whether to stay and look for a job here or whether to seek their fortune abroad.

Report on Israeli Taba proposal denied

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel has made no proposal for changing the status of Taba, the disputed border area south of Eilat, and the government's policy on Taba will be determined later, Prime Minister Shimon Peres's spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman denied a Kol Yisrael radio report on Monday that said Peres on his recent U.S. trip had discussed with a third party a compromise solution for Taba. Both Egypt and Israel claim sovereignty over the area.

According to Peres's media adviser, Uri Savir, the premier did discuss

Taba during his talks with U.S. officials in Washington.

The radio also said that Peres told Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Mohammed Bassiouny at a meeting in Jerusalem on Monday that the government would soon hold a special meeting on Taba. Bassiouny reportedly told Peres that Egypt wanted to reach agreement with Israel on Taba, and that this would lead to an improvement in relations between the two countries.

The radio added that Ezer Weizman, a minister for special functions in the premier's office, took part in the meeting between Peres and Bassiouny.

Skin-cancer cures to be discussed at congress

By LEA LEVAVI
TEL AVIV. — The possibility of developing a vaccine against melanomas (a form of skin cancer), the use of laser surgery in removing skin tumours and cosmetic operations such as the surgical removal of fat or the transplanting of hair will be among the topics discussed at the Fifth International Congress on Dermatologic Surgery, to be held in Jerusalem during October 28-31.

At a news conference here yesterday, Dr. Raphael Shafir, one of the organizers of the congress, advised

the public not to be frightened if they see black spots on their skin (or changes such as bleeding in spots that have been there for a long time) but also not to ignore them. "Probably, they aren't melanomas, but it is a good idea to ask a doctor just to be sure," he said. "In case they are, then detecting them early can mean complete recovery."

He said Israel is a pioneer in laser surgery and, therefore, has many new developments to share with the 250 doctors expected to come from abroad for the congress.

"I got a Hanukkah present this year!"

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At a ceremony marking the official opening of the \$4.5 million road scheme aimed at relieving traffic congestion at the western entrance to Jerusalem, Mayor Teddy Kollek presents mementos to Housing and Construction Minister David Levy, Transport Minister Haim Corfu and Minister without Portfolio and former Interior Minister Yosef Burg, whose ministries were involved in the project. Yossi Zamir

Kollek celebrates new \$45m. road scheme

By TSIPI KUPER
Special to the Jerusalem Post

Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek celebrated the completion of a major \$4.5 million road scheme at the capital's western entrance yesterday.

The aim of the project is to reduce the pressure on the intersection, which is used by some 50,000 vehicles daily, causing bottlenecks during rush hours.

Municipal engineering department officials say the capacity of the intersection has been more than doubled by the reconstruction.

With completion of the work, traffic can no longer leave the city from

Jaffa Road and only public transport can turn left from the central bus station onto Sderot Herzl.

Kollek held a reception for Housing and Construction Minister David Levy, Minister without Portfolio Yosef Burg and Transport Minister Haim Corfu, congratulating them on completing the project within the one-year deadline.

"This is a big step forward on the way to solving the city's traffic problems," said Kollek.

Corfu said the only solution to traffic problems in the urban centres was to give priority to public transport.

Police hold Jerusalem man for refusing to give answers

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Jerusalem police are holding a man in connection with the murder of Masha Efrati, 62.

Efrati, who was a nurse at the Jerusalem municipal dental clinic and an active member of the Rakah (Communist) Party, was found stabbed to death in her Beit Hakermel flat on Sunday evening. According to the police, nothing was stolen from the apartment nor were there any signs of burglary. The man is also a member of Rakah.

The police, who questioned her associates, said the man is not suspected in the murder, but has refused to answer questions.

Also likely to be questioned are

patients and associates from the dental clinic.

Advocate Felicia Langer is handling the arrested man's case and the police said yesterday they would either release him or bring him before a magistrate for remand today.

Knesset Member Tawfik Toubi (Democratic Front for Peace, of which Rakah is the dominant faction) yesterday wrote Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev to protest against what he called the arbitrary and political arrest of the man. Toubi said the man, who went to the police on his own initiative to get the murdered woman's body released for burial, was interrogated on party activities and was right in refusing to cooperate in such questioning.

25% deposit not for returning residents

Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon on Monday signed an order exempting returning residents and students from the 25 per cent compulsory deposits on imported goods.

The non-linked compulsory deposits were decided upon by the government when it placed a ban on imports on October 3.

The new order says that residents who have been away from the country for two years or more, who under

normal circumstances may bring in a specified list of goods un-taxed, will not have to pay the compulsory deposit if their goods arrive in Israel by December 31, 1984. The order is retroactive to October 3. Returning residents who have already paid the deposit will get their money back.

The goods in question include furniture, refrigerators, washing machines, television receivers and musical instruments.

Video enthusiasts invited to roll in film-in

Jerusalem Post Staff

Video enthusiasts should have their cameras ready to roll in a nationwide film-in at 3 p.m. on Friday.

The event is being staged as part of Artcom Israel 1984 to be held next month and will include a symposium on the Aesthetics of Communication together with an International Festival of Video Art.

Local camera operators are in-

cluded mainly recording family events but the aim of this project, being sponsored by the Israel Museum, Jerusalem, is to show the video as an art form.

It is planned that the works will be screened simultaneously on several monitors during Artcom from 11 to 17 November in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa.

Anyone interested in taking part in the event should contact Natan Karczmar, 03-833289.

3 policemen charged with manhandling suspect

PETAH TIKVA (Itim). — Three Central District policemen have been charged with using unnecessary violence on a civilian three years ago.

The complainant, Moshe Hazut, said Chief Inspector Gamliel Harari, Staff Sergeant Major Rafael Biton and Sergeant David Shalashvili punched him in the face and ribs when he was taken in for questioning on a violent family quarrel he was in. He said his nose was broken as a result of the beatings, and he suffered pains in his ribs.

The charge, referring to a November 15, 1981 incident, was presented yesterday in the police disciplinary court in Petah Tikva. The three denied the charges.

New Nicaraguan ties

The chances for a renewed dialogue between Israel and Nicaragua have improved considerably because of her visit there. Mapam Knesset Member Chaika Grossman said yesterday on her return from three days of talks in that troubled Central American country.

The left-wing Sandanista regime governing Nicaragua broke off diplomatic relations with Israel in the wake of the Sabra and Shatila massacres and has expressed hostility to the Jewish State for having supplied the previous Somoza regime there with arms.

But Grossman told Itim at Ben-Gurion Airport that she had told her Nicaraguan interlocutors that the U.S., though guilty of the same act, had not been subjected to any severance of relations. She said that this explanation seemed to have been persuasive.

COMPUTERS. — Students at teachers colleges will be required to learn to operate computers as an educational aid, the Education Ministry announced.

Today's soldiers have bigger soles and heels

Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Soldiers joining the Israel Defence Forces now have bigger feet than those inducted 10 years ago, according to the latest issue of the Israel Defence Forces weekly, *Bamahaneh*, published today.

The magazine notes that in the mid-1970s, the average soldier wore shoes sized 41 or 42. Today the average is 44 or 45.

Trousers and shirts are also bigger than they used to be, the magazine adds.

Seminar on women

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Sex roles and the sociological, psychological and legal status of women will be among the topics discussed during a seminar to be held at Wizo's Beit Heuss centre in Herzliya Pituah on October 28-30.

The seminar is a joint project of Wizo's Rachel Kagan Leadership Institute and the organization's Status of Women Department.

25 pumping stations without power

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Israel Electric Corporation yesterday switched off power supplies to another 10 pumping stations of the Mekorot water company, bringing the number of stations disconnected in the past few days to 25.

The IEC spokesman said they would cut off more pumping stations every day until Mekorot pays its IS 3.6 billion bill.

So far the shut-offs have been at pumping stations in outlying areas have not affected drinking-water supplies.

"We are doing everything possible to ensure that the cut-offs do not affect drinking water, and we hope that there will be a settlement before the situation reaches that stage," the spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

He said that up to now the cut-offs have been at stations that pump water into places like reservoirs that already have adequate supplies.

Nevertheless, Mekorot director-general Ze'ev Ashkenazi warned last night that if the IEC continues to switch off power supplies to the stations, there will be a shortage of water for irrigation in the next few days.

He said that so far agriculture had not been badly affected because its requirements are low at this time of the year. There is no doubt, however, that the situation will worsen unless a settlement is reached soon, he said.

He revealed that the agriculture minister is negotiating with the finance minister to get money for Mekorot to pay its debts. The Finance Ministry had earlier said it would not give Mekorot any more money.

IDF 'demonstrates presence' beyond its lines to the Druse

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — An Israeli force comprising tanks and armoured personnel carriers yesterday crossed its northernmost lines in Lebanon near Ba'at-Shouf and patrolled several Druse-controlled villages. The force later returned to the Israeli-held territory and was said to have suffered no casualties.

Officers on the scene said the foray was designed to "demonstrate presence," meaning to show that the Israel Defence Forces are close by.

The patrol was also designed to give the IDF a sense of what is happening in the area of Nih, Jaba a-Shouf and Ein Kinya. Soldiers patrolled some sensitive areas on foot.

The forces went in following an increase in hostile activity in the area, especially by Shi'ites.

Officers reportedly took the opportunity to warn local leaders against cooperating with terrorists. This followed suspicions that Druse leaders have been renegeing on their promise to bar terrorists from their territory.

Bar-Ilan University joins decision to delay opening

Jerusalem Post Staff

RAMAT GAN. — Bar-Ilan University yesterday followed the Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in deciding to delay opening the school year until November 11 and not on Sunday as scheduled.

The Feinberg College at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot yesterday also announced that it would postpone its opening until next month.

The Knesset Education Committee yesterday appealed to the universities and the Treasury to do all within their power to open on Sunday.

The universities decided to delay opening because the Council for Higher Education, which acts as an intermediary between the universities and the government, has yet to approve their budgets for the coming academic year.

Drug use jumped in IDF last year

Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Israel Defence Forces last year recorded "quite a significant increase" in soldiers' use of dangerous drugs, according to Chief Military Prosecutor Sgan Aluf Uri Shoham.

Shoham is quoted in the IDF weekly *Bamahaneh* as saying he believes one of the reasons for the rise in drug abuse is Israel's presence in Lebanon. He added, however, that there has been no increase in the use of drugs among soldiers in the fighting units.

A brief report that *Bamahaneh* released to the press yesterday did not describe the degrees of the increase in the use of drugs or identify the drugs.

It said that a "new system" to detect drug abuse has lately brought a "certain reduction" in consumption. The system includes two urine tests, each of which is 99.8% accurate. Earlier, conviction of soldiers on the basis of one test had been contested in court.

Kollek says city's Arab residents are treated fairly

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Jerusalem Municipality's meeting chamber yesterday was the venue of the 11th Knesset's inaugural meeting of the Interior and Ecology Committee under the chairmanship of Knesset Member Dov Shilansky.

To prove that the capital's Arab residents are being treated fairly, Mayor Teddy Kollek pointed out to MK Mohammed Miani (Progressive List for Peace) that 70 building per-

mits had been issued to Arab residents of the Beit Hanina suburb in the past year, compared with only 60 permits issued by the Jordanian authorities to property owners in the Jerusalem area in the final year of Jordanian rule.

MK Yehoshua Mazza (Likud), who is also a Jerusalem municipal councillor, said that Jerusalem could serve as a model for all other local authorities because of its success in living within its budget.

Agency dismisses report of rescue effort in Yemen

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Jewish Agency sources yesterday dismissed a Kol Yisrael report that an American Jew of Yemenite extraction is going to Yemen to rescue the small Jewish community there.

The sources said that efforts to help the community have been continuous, but that there is no special campaign going on now.

The estimated 1,000 Jews in Yemen are isolated from contacts with Israel and the rest of Jewry.

Salvador death squad kills union leader's son

SAN SALVADOR (Reuters). — A right-wing death squad abducted and killed the 14-year-old son of a union worker as warning to the man to halt his union activities. The U.S. Embassy said.

An embassy statement said Boris King Montes was taken from his home by heavily armed men dressed in civilian clothes on October 19. Later that evening his body was found with a note addressed to his father which read "Stop working for the UCS."

The boy's father, Alirio Montes, is a spokesman for the Salvadorean Union of Peasants (UCS), one of the largest unions here whose leaders have been threatened by death squads.

El Salvador's security forces have been linked by U.S. officials, churchmen, union leaders and the opposition to the death squads, which have murdered thousands of suspected leftists since the civil war began five years ago.

MENUHIN HOUR. — Members of the Musical Youth Movement — youngsters of junior high and high school age who are interested in serious music — will have the opportunity to meet violinist Yehudi Menuhin at the Philharmonic's guest house in Ramat Aviv at noon on Saturday. The one-hour meeting will include remarks by the artist and a question-and-answer period.

Chinese among textile workers in TA congress

By ROY ISACOWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Trade unionists from China, Bangladesh, Malaysia and Indonesia — none of which maintains diplomatic relations with Israel — are among the approximately 300 delegates to the fourth world congress of the International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers' Federation that opened at the Dan Hotel here yesterday.

The congress is the first such gathering to be held in Israel. The delegates represent some 5.5 million workers around the world.

The three-day congress is expected to concentrate on the crisis facing the textile industry worldwide, particularly in the light of increasing computerization of work places. Israeli delegation leader Amir Andrianov said that she would also raise the issues of child labour and the state of the Israeli textile industry.

In his opening address to the congress, Histiadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar called for the participation of labour movements in the formulating of social policies in their countries. Labour's concerns must be both economic and social, he declared.

KNESSET BRIEFS

By AARON SITTNER

Today's debate on the situation of Soviet Jews is being held because the presidium has approved a departure from Knesset custom that motions for the agenda are not discussed in the first week after the House reconvenes. Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tzur will reply for the government.

Bothered by Kach Knesset Member Meir Kahane's use of the title rabbi, another ordained MK — the Alignment's Menahem Haohen — proposes in a private member's bill that only rabbis who lead congregations be permitted to use the title. Furthermore, the Ministry of Religious Affairs would publish a registry listing the names of all ordained rabbis — Orthodox, Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist — including women rabbis ordained by the Reform and Conservative movements.

Kahane has informed the House Committee he will not appear before it next Tuesday when it discusses a request from Edna Solodar (Alignment) that Kahane's freedom of movement in the country be curtailed.

Tawfik Toubi (Democratic Front for Peace and Equality), in an urgent motion for the agenda, demands that Foreign Minister Shamir cancel his meeting planned with South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha because "such a meeting would violate the international boycott of South Africa over its apartheid policy."

To improve the Knesset's image, Michael Harish (Alignment) suggests that MKs no longer set their own salaries. Instead, a public committee named by the president should do so, with committee members being "persons of moral authority" including representatives of the Histiadrut and the employers' organizations. Harish's suggestion comes in a letter to Speaker Shlomo Hillel.

THE LAUTENBERG CENTER FOR GENERAL AND TUMOR IMMUNOLOGY HEBREW UNIVERSITY — HADASSAH MEDICAL SCHOOL

The members of the Center extend their warmest congratulations to their dedicated friend and supporter

SENATOR FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

on the occasion of his being awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology.

South African troops lay siege to black townships

SEBOKENG, South Africa (AP). — Seven thousand soldiers and policemen sealed off three black townships south of Johannesburg yesterday and arrested more than 340 persons in a search for leaders of two months of anti-apartheid rioting.

A siege was laid to the ghetto of Sebokeng before dawn, and the police said at mid-afternoon that the operation there was winding down.

By late afternoon, Police Colonel Jaap Venter said that "owing to the fact we had the manpower available," the police and army had also poured into the townships of Sharpeville and Boipatong, about 10 kilometres from Sebokeng.

"It's the same operation as in Sebokeng," Venter said.

The police spokesman told reporters at the nearby white town of

Vereeniging there was no resistance to the Sebokeng snoop and no shots were fired. He said the white-minority government was demonstrating to other black townships that "it is our intention to restore law and order."

The spokesman said those arrested would appear in courts starting later in the day on charges of illegally possessing drugs, liquor, pornography, stolen goods and weapons. Some were charged with violating laws barring blacks from living in certain areas without passes. No charges were reported under South Africa's wide-ranging security laws.

Black and white groups opposed to the government's systems of legalised race-separation condemned the

raid. Bishop Manas Buthezi, president of the South African Council of Churches, said he was shocked by "what amounts to the siege of Sebokeng."

Legislator Peter Soai of the white opposition Progressive Federal Party, said troops should not be used in the townships and that "the genuine grievances of people" must be addressed. Spokesman Trevor Manuel of the United Democratic Front, a multi-racial coalition, said, "It is unlikely the people of Sebokeng will be beaten into submission."

Sebokeng was at the heart of riots that broke out in late August to protest against rent increases in the townships and inferior black education. Underlying the violence was resentment of apartheid practices

that keep the best jobs, schools and houses for whites.

The violence subsided by late September but continued sporadically in various townships near Johannesburg and Pretoria. Tens of thousands of black students are still boycotting classes.

In other townships on Monday, the police said birdshot, tear gas and rubber bullets were used to disperse stone-throwing crowds.

Disturbances occurred in Kwa-Thema near Johannesburg. New Brighton near Port Elizabeth and Sharpeville, near Vereeniging. The police said two petrol bombs were thrown and some buildings and cars set on fire.

The police said they arrested 30 persons in the outbreaks.

Iran to show foreign press site of 'spectacular victory'

TEHERAN. — Iran said yesterday it had won a "spectacular victory" against Iraq in a battle to retake strategic heights in the central sector of the Persian Gulf war front.

Teheran radio said Iran had retaken 50 square kilometres of Iranian land occupied since the war started four years ago.

The radio put Iraqi casualties at over 3,700 but did not give Iranian figures. The battle began on October 17. It also said that three Iraqi planes, two helicopters and 95 tanks and personnel carriers had been destroyed.

Iranian authorities have confirmed that they are taking foreign reporters to the battlefield today, usually an indication they consider the area secure.

President Ali Khamenei also reaf-

firmed that Iran is determined to overthrow Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. "Peace cannot materialize, naturally, while the Saddam regime exists," he said in a speech to families of fighters killed in the war.

The emir of Kuwait, underscoring his concern over the protracted war, told his parliament yesterday that Kuwait will "do its utmost" to bring the 49-month-old conflict to an end.

The emir, Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah, also told a new session of the 50-member National Assembly, convening after a summer recess, that Kuwait is "determined to defend its sovereignty against any form of foreign aggression."

He was alluding to the so-called tanker war, an offshoot of the Gulf war, which threatens merchant vessels in neutral waters along the region's sea lanes. (Reuters, AP).

New strike threatens shutdown of British mines

LONDON (AP). — Leaders of 17,000 mine foremen met with executives of the state-run National Coal Board yesterday in a final bid to head off a strike that would paralyze Britain's coalfields already battered by the seven-month-old miners' strike.

Peter McNestry, general secretary of the Mine Foremen's Union, said the differences with the NCB were "bridgeable" but he criticized full-page adverts placed in national daily papers by the coal board declaring it

had no more concessions to make to head off the strike scheduled to start tomorrow.

McNestry said he would press the coal board for concessions on the planned closure of 20 unprofitable mines and shedding 20,000 jobs in the troubled coal industry.

But if the strike goes ahead the quarter of the 175 state mines still working will be forced to close, as the foremen carry out vital safety functions.

Former Rhodesian minister Lardner-Burke dies

HARARE (Reuters). — A former Rhodesian minister of justice, law and order, Des Lardner-Burke, died Monday night aged 75, his family

said. Lardner-Burke was a close ally of former Rhodesian premier Ian Smith.

Amnesty slams Israel over PLO prisoners

By HYAM CORNEY

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL has criticized Israel for imprisoning people merely for belonging to the PLO. In its 1984 annual report published in London today, Amnesty says that it "does not consider that membership of the PLO alone demonstrates advocacy of violence."

The report, which covers amnesty's activities in 1983, reveals that there was an investigation of 13 cases of people convicted of belonging to the PLO or, in two cases, of belonging to a student organization allegedly supporting the PLO.

Those affected included students, teachers and medical personnel from the West Bank and Gaza, who were sentenced to between eight months' and five years' imprisonment.

Amnesty asked the Israeli authorities "whether there was any evidence that the convicted people had used or advocated violence."

During the year under review, Amnesty worked for the release of 50 prisoners of conscience in Israel and the occupied territories and investigated the cases of 41 possible prisoners of conscience. Of these 91, a total of 54 were released during the year. Nineteen were convicted of serious offences, 44 were conscientious objectors and 28 were held under restriction orders.

THE REPORT expresses concern over "the increasing number of selective conscientious objectors" imprisoned for refusing to serve in Lebanon (and, in one case, in the West Bank). It claims to have received details of 81 reservists and regulars sentenced to between 10 and 40 days' imprisonment, some of whom have served repeated prison terms. Amnesty considered them as prisoners of conscience and appealed for their unconditional release.

Detentions by the IDF in Lebanon "continued to be a cause of concern" to Amnesty. Referring to the exchange of six Israelis held by Fatah for almost 4,500 prisoners held by the IDF at Al Ansur and 100 Palestinians held in Israel, the report reveals that "around 140 Al Ansur detainees were transferred to Israel some weeks before the prisoner exchange and detained in Atlit Prison in accordance with an emergency regulation of August 1983. They were still being held incommunicado."

Strike halts London's 'Times' as TV chiefs work

LONDON (AP). — The strike-plagued *Times* failed to publish for the second day yesterday because of an industrial dispute while the capital's *Times* Television resumed broadcasting on Monday night after five days, with managers standing in for striking technicians.

Key printers, electricians and engineers at the *Times* walked off the job in a dispute with management over payment for operating a new fifth printing machine.

Rupert Murdoch's News Interna-

at the end of the year.

Amnesty was also concerned about "the increasing use of restriction orders," at least 90 of which were issued last year. Amnesty believes that "many people were restricted for the non-violent expression of their political opinions" and it opposed "the imposition of such measures in all cases since those restricted were not charged or tried and had no effective right to refute the evidence against them."

The possession of "illegal literature" is frequently used as a pretext to arrest and detain individuals, particularly students, the report alleges.

IN THE Middle East generally, Amnesty worked last year on behalf of more than 950 known or possible prisoners of conscience.

Prisoners were held incommunicado without trial for months or years in a number of countries in the region, and when political prisoners were brought to trial, "the proceedings often fell short of internationally recognized standards of fairness."

In Iran, where thousands of political prisoners were held, "arrest, detention and legal procedures all appeared to be arbitrary." Amnesty recorded almost 400 known executions there last year, but regarded this as a minimum figure.

It also knew of more than 300 executions in Iraq, but believed the total to be "much higher." Most of the recorded executions were for political offences.

In Syria, Amnesty worked for more than 250 known prisoners of conscience.

THE AMNESTY report deals with the situation in 117 countries, and notes that human rights activists have been tortured and killed in El Salvador and Guatemala, confined to corrective labour camps or psychiatric hospitals in the Soviet Union and abducted or imprisoned in other countries.

"The attacks on those who defend human rights are an attempt not only to deter dissent but to eliminate the very exercise of conscience," the report states. "When individuals expose the crimes of the state, they are punished as if they were criminals. Yet it is they who have acted in accordance with international human rights commitments accepted by their governments, while their governments act with contempt."

national, which owns the paper, says it needs the new machine to cope with rising circulation, while the strikers have been warned their action could jeopardize the jobs of all print workers on the paper.

Thames Television's 550 technicians, some of whom earn up to \$29,750 a year, walked out last Wednesday in a dispute over timing of extra payments for handling film taken by new lightweight video cameras and the company went off the air.

Franco-Soviet ties strained over newsman's jail term

PARIS (Reuters). — Prime Minister Laurent Fabius has decided it would be inappropriate to attend a Franco-Soviet anniversary celebration, while his government is making strenuous efforts for the release of French journalist Jacques Abouchar who was detained by Soviet troops in Afghanistan last month.

Abouchar, a television reporter, was jailed for 18 years by a Kabul court last weekend for illegally entering the country after being captured with Afghan guerrillas in southern Afghanistan on September 19.

The prime minister's office would make no formal comment on the decision not to attend the Paris ceremonies, marking the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between France and the Soviet Union.

Earlier a spokesman had stressed that the invitation was issued and accepted before Abouchar, who works for the Antenne 2 channel,

was detained by Soviet troops in southern Afghanistan while travelling with a group of rebels.

The French Communist Party issued a statement that it was suspending relations with the ruling Afghan party because Abouchar had not been released.

In 1980 French Communist Party leader Georges Marchais saw his popularity slump dramatically after publicly endorsing the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in December 1979.

Public protest in France over Abouchar's imprisonment grew with the mayor of Toulouse, Dominique Baudis, cancelling plans to fly to Kiev for a town-twining ceremony.

Yesterday France's National Assembly suspended its sitting for five minutes as a mark of solidarity with Abouchar. Communist deputy Yves Taverrier went to the Afghan embassy to demand his release.

Special unit to combat IRA in British security shake-up

LONDON (AP). — The British government is to set up a top-level anti-terrorist command known as Tiger to coordinate intelligence and operations against Irish Republican Army guerrillas who tried to blow up Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her cabinet earlier this month.

Home Secretary Leon Brittan said, "We will not be bombed into bolshes by terrorists," he vowed when he announced the formation of the Terrorist Intelligence-Gathering Evaluation and Review Committee.

The unit, headed by one of Brittan's deputy secretaries, will comprise government officials, police chiefs, military advisers and intelligence heads.

The formation of the committee was a major shake-up in security operations in the wake of the bombing of the Grand Hotel in the south coast resort of Brighton.

It was the outlawed IRA's most ambitious attack against the government in its bloody campaign to drive the British out of Northern Ireland and unite the province with the

neighbouring Irish Republic.

Four persons were killed and 32 injured in the blast. Muriel McLean, wife of the Conservative's Scottish chairman, was reported in "very poor" condition yesterday after her right leg was amputated at Brighton's Royal Sussex Hospital.

Meanwhile, in Strasbourg the European Commission of Human Rights has declared that plastic bullets fired by security forces in Northern Ireland to control riots have caused deaths and serious injuries, but they are not as dangerous as alleged.

In a report released on Monday, the commission said since the death of 10-year-old Steven Geddiss in August 1975, 11 other persons have been killed by plastic rounds in Northern Ireland.

In its decision, however, the commission accepted the government's argument that the weapon is used only when "absolutely necessary" when the safety of the security forces is threatened.

Bear-like woman in China seized man, had children

PEKING (Reuters). — A sex-starved wild woman who looked like a bear grabbed a Tibetan herdsman and produced two offspring after forcing him to live with her in a Himalayan cave for several years, according to a Canton newspaper.

The story of the hairy woman — and another about a wild man who held a woman captive in a cave in China's southwestern Sichuan Province for 40 years — was recounted at a Canton exhibition about the hunt for the legendary "abominable snowman," the *Yangcheng Evening News* reported.

The paper, available in Peking yesterday, said the Tibetan incident happened in 1964.

When the man escaped from the cave, the hairy woman chased him but was shot by herdsman. They found the two babies had already been killed by the mother.

The paper said the young males were covered in long hair, but it did not say what happened to them.

Anthropologists say the creatures could be genetic throwbacks or descendants of a gigantic manlike ape.

They believe many sightings occur when the wild men, China's version of the Himalayan "Yeti," are looking for mates.

There have been several reported sightings of a similar creature in China's central province of Hubei. Scientists have established a nature reserve to collect more evidence.

Ferraro's husband subject of jury probe

NEW YORK (Reuters). — A grand jury is investigating two property deals involving Geraldine Ferraro's husband, The *New York Times* reported yesterday.

A spokesman for Ferraro said the Democratic vice-presidential contender's husband, John Zaccaro, "may have information about" transactions that were being probed.

The *Times* quoted lawyers close to the case as saying the investigation was unlikely to be completed before the November 6 election.

The newspaper said one of the cases concerned a \$500,000 loan

from a local governmental credit union. The second involved the alleged altering of a sales contract during an unsuccessful bid to buy five apartment buildings.

Meanwhile, Democrat Walter Mondale, planning a non-stop drive for votes in the final two weeks of the election campaign, hopes to exploit weaknesses that he says President Reagan revealed in Sunday's televised debate.

The attack continued his debate strategy of questioning Reagan's competence and leadership in foreign affairs.

Sports

Team up for grabs

By DON GOULD

Post Basketball Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The National Basketball League is humming with talk about the slump of highly regarded Hapoel Ramat Gan, who have lost their last three league games, after winning their first five in great style.

News has broken that the club is in debt to the tune of \$400,000, and that it is up for grabs by anybody prepared to take over the debts together with the talent. Nobody has explained how the club got into this inexplicable position.

Ramat Gan were a picture of negative consistency on Monday night, when they went down 75-67 to young and sometimes erratic Hapoel Holon, who didn't have to play that well to take revenge on their last year's coach, former national coach Arye Malyniak, who now leads Ramat Gan. Ramat Gan got a meagre 34 points in the first half, and an even more paltry 33 in the second; a close look reveals that they only scored 14 points in the last ten minutes. What makes Ramat Gan's defeat even more bitter to swallow is that all three were suffered in the supposedly friendly confines of Yad Eliyahu. After leading the league till the beginning of October, they have now dropped to fifth place.

The players appear to be paying less than 100 per cent attention to events on the court. It seems probable that the club's financial difficulties, which have resulted in late or partial payments of salaries to players, may be having an adverse effect on morale and on the players' efforts on the court.

In other eighth round league action, champions and league leaders Maccabi Tel Aviv whipped Ashdod 111-91, while Maccabi Be'er Sheva won 96-79, then beating the debut of Kiryat Gat's new coach, Shmuel Jacobson. Lavender Maccabi Rastan pushed themselves into second place by means of a hard-fought 89-83 victory over tough Maccabi Haifa. League high-scoring Dorcas Ramat led the stand for the winners with 33 points.

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Ramat Tel Aviv, with Derek Phillips net

The Post's Wladimir Struminski talks to Manfred Rommel, mayor of Stuttgart

It is arrogant to say, "I would have behaved differently." There is no knowing if one really would



THE MAYOR of Stuttgart, who loved his popularity by being respected in 1982 and who has earned a reputation as a standard-bearer for political tolerance, has an unforgettable family name. Manfred Rommel, the son of one of the most famous generals of World War II, Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, whose success in leading the German army in North Africa earned him the name of the "Desert Fox," was a freer officer who took pride in not being a politician. He became convinced after the Allied invasion of Normandy that the war was lost and vowed a capitulation. Rommel knew beforehand of the conspiracy that led to an attempt to assassinate Hitler on July 20, 1944. Although Rommel was not among the inner circle of conspirators, his role in the plot sealed his fate. On October 14, 1944, two of Hitler's messengers arrived at Rommel's home, where he was recuperating after being seriously wounded in an air attack in France. They offered him a choice: he could commit suicide, in which case the regime would say that he had died of his injuries, proclaim him a hero and take care of his family, or he would be tried as a traitor. Rommel took the poison the messengers provided. HIS SON Manfred, born in 1928, was then 16. His career in many ways seems ordinary. He studied law at the University of Tübingen and in 1956 entered the civil service in Baden-Württemberg, one of Germany's 11 federal states. By 1972 he had risen to the highest civil service post of secretary of state. In 1975, he was elected mayor of Stuttgart, the state's capital. A member of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), he was defeated in internal party elections in his 1978 bid to be a candidate for prime minister of Baden-Württemberg. But today, at 55, he is still considered young enough to look forward to an important political career. He has found a place in the sun within the long shadow of history, and he talked about this frankly with *The Jerusalem Post*. Question: Being a Rommel in post-war Germany — was this not an ideal situation for you? Your father was not only honoured in the Federal Republic, but was also highly re-

spected by former war enemies as well. This is a rare enough combination. MY FATHER had acquired the Allies' respect, because the war in North Africa had been conducted differently from what happened on other fronts. It was a fair war. There was no pathos of a crusade in it, like there was in the campaign against the Soviet Union. However, the external conditions were different too. The North African war took place in uninhabited territories. There was no civilian population which suf-

fered from it. Also, Hitler hardly intervened in this war. There was, to be sure, an order to kill Jewish emigrants from Germany who served in the British Army and were taken prisoner by the Germans, but this order was simply burned. In any case, the name Rommel was no stain on your political career? I BECAME a politician relatively late. Until then I had been a civil servant, and had reached the highest rank in the civil service without drawing on my father's name. My

decision to become a politician had nothing to do with my father. It is true, however, that the name Rommel started playing a role as soon as I entered politics. You did not utilize your father for your own political publicity, however. NO. I DID NOT. But in politics it helps to have a well-known name when you have to face the voters. A few weeks ago Defence Minister Manfred Wörner called your father

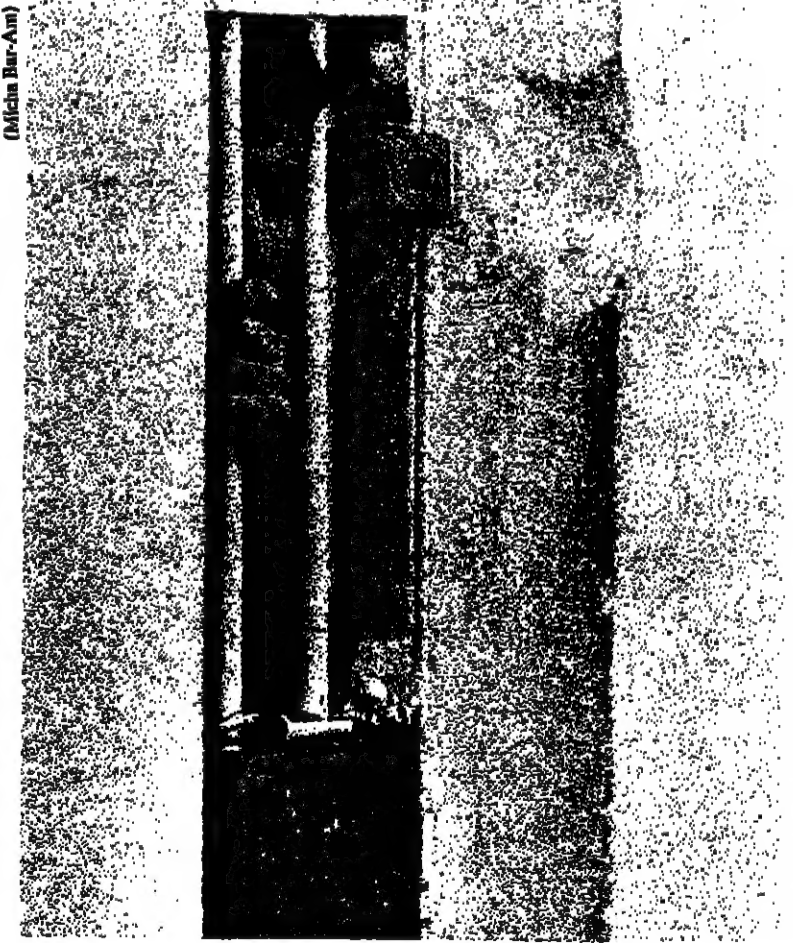
an exemplary model for the Bundeswehr. You have not served in the Bundeswehr, however. I AM glad to never have been a professional soldier. If I had done that, people would have certainly said: "The father was better." Have you never been drafted into the Bundeswehr? NO. I was born in 1928. I was a soldier at the age of 15 and 16 — as "assistant soldier" in the German Air Force. After the war our class was not called up any more... Still,

because of my father, I have dealt very intensively with the question of how such a political, but first and foremost, a human, catastrophe as the Third Reich could have happened. I have reached the conclusion that the typical army virtues like discipline, obedience and courage are secondary. Courage as well? Why? SECONDARY because they depend on the purpose for which the army is serving. Humaneness, love of your fellow man, tolerance — they are primary. In the past, the Germans did not see clearly enough the difference between putting the military virtues at the service of a democracy, on the one hand, and a dictatorship on the other. When I speak of "secondary," I mean the principle of the non-political soldier, too. The impact of this principle is derived from the purpose for which the army is serving. In a democracy, this is a good principle. In the Nazi order, it was a calamity. On the other hand, precisely because of this differentiation, I reject criticism of any discipline... You cannot praise disobedience against the state as a virtue in itself. It is absolute nonsense to equate the Third Reich with today's situation. If you want your ideas to have widespread impact, why do you remain just a municipal politician. Do you not aim at something higher? IN GERMANY, municipal politicians are no less important than those at the federal level. Especially in the south. Here, the mayors are elected directly by the population. This strengthens their position. Besides, democracy is very much a question of day-to-day policies. Therefore the cities have an important role to play. Does that mean that you would like to remain Stuttgart's mayor in future as well? I WILL not take a vow now that I will not do anything else forever. Still, I have no other plans. You visited Israel recently. I HAVE visited Israel twice. Maybe it is an irony of history that you have done in four hours, in a civilian airliner, what your father did not manage at the spearhead of an

armoured corps. For the Jews in Palestine there would have been no "clean war" if your father had conquered the country. Did you not feel in Israel that you were in a country that might have been annihilated because of your father? I WAS aware of that. On the other hand, I have to remind you that I have declared publicly long ago that the Germans were better off losing the war with Hitler than winning it with Hitler. Stuttgart has no twin city in Israel. Why? WE HAVE a close relationship with the town of Shaveh Zion, where many Schwabians live. Are you afraid that a city headed by the son of Field Marshal Rommel would find no partner in Israel? ABSOLUTELY not. This would be no problem. What conclusions did your father draw at the end of his life? HE REGARDED his life as saturated with calamities. But then, he also regarded his time as saturated with calamities. After his injury, when he was at home, we spoke a lot with each other. Then, he did not say even one good word about that (Nazi) state. He complained about the murders that had been committed by the Third Reich. He did not know the full scope of them, but he knew enough. About the murder of Jews, too? YES. He told me about mass shootings of Jews as well as of the gassing. It is, however, arrogant to say, "I would have behaved differently at that time." There is no knowing if one really would. After all, my father openly disagreed with Hitler even before he had realized the whole injustice of the Nazi state. I do not know whether in my father's place I would have had the courage to behave according to my conscience so often. Summing up, do you feel at ease with yourself, with the way you are, and given the historical luggage that you carry with you? I FEEL at ease with myself. You do not have to feel bad in order to be a decent man.

The long journey back

The Post's Judy Siegel-Itzkovich talks to the head of the Prisoner Rehabilitation Authority about how it helps former convicts to readjust to society.



GETTING OUT of prison is almost as much of a shock as getting in. And while the Prisoner Rehabilitation Authority, established last April, won't change society's prejudices or provide jobs, its founders hope it can make the way out a bit easier. The lack of an identity card, health insurance, inability to communicate with one's family or even have a lead body tattoo, can mean the difference between success and failure for an ex-convict who wants to make a new life out of jail. The authority, headed by former labour and Social Affairs Ministry spokesman Avraham Hoffman, has just held its first seminar for soon-to-be-released prisoners at Mas'asiyahu Prison. The intensive course — attended by 37 men after their day's work — comprised dozens of hours of lectures by outside experts, including psychologists, industrialists, lawyers, employment counsellors and prison officials. By the end of next year, Hoffman expects that the authority will have reached every soon-to-be-released convict in each of the country's prisons. This year alone, 2,500 persons, who have served an average of near-three years, are due to be released. Unless they are able to adjust and fend for themselves, they could end themselves back behind bars, as recidivists, in no time. Hoffman, who was ministry spokesman from 1968 until the establishment of the authority this year, first became interested in the subject of prisoner rehabilitation when he worked as a volunteer at Tel Aviv in a project designed to prepare convicts for release. He realized that not enough was being done to help them. MAY 1982, then-prime minister Menachem Begin proposed granting

amnesty to many prisoners, as a gesture to mark the 15th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem. The authorities objected, noting that an amnesty in 1967 was a failure because prisoners had not been prepared technically or psychologically for their release. Many of those released returned to crime and soon found themselves back behind bars. Hoffman, recalling that incident, proposed to then-deputy minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Ben-Zion Rubin, that an authority for prisoner rehabilitation be established. Knesset Members from all points on the political spectrum, including Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino, Rafi Suissa and Mordechai Virshupski, worked for the bill's passage. First drafted as a proposal in the summer of 1982, it went to the Knesset in March last year. According to the Prisoner Rehabilitation Authority Law, the authority would be funded by the Treasury but be responsible to the labour and social affairs minister. Its functions were to evolve a prisoner-rehabilitation policy; to prepare rehabilitation schemes for prisoners in anticipation of their release, to act for the absorption and rehabilitation of prisoners in the community, including employment, vocational training, income assurance, housing and health services; to assist prisoners' families; to encourage and to guide voluntary activity by individuals and bodies, and to act to increase public awareness of the problem. The authority is required by law to

be located in Jerusalem (according to Hoffman, this legal requirement is unique among all legislation dealing with public offices). And it now operates from an office at 38 Jaffa Road (telephone 232753). Hoffman insists that his office be furnished entirely with tables, chairs and bookshelves made by prisoners, as a way of showing that convicts can be rehabilitated. "I could have ordered regular furniture, but I didn't," he told *The Jerusalem Post*. SO FAR, Hoffman has hand-picked his staff of eight, which will eventually increase to over a dozen. Every staffer works on a contractual basis and thus can be asked to leave if he doesn't succeed in his job. They all took unpaid leave from their regular workplace for a trial period. All of the staff members have a minimum of 10 years' experience in social work, or have worked in a prison or in a mental hospital. They are in their early 30s, and have enough energy and enthusiasm to do unconventional work during long and unconventional hours. Branches have also been established in Tel Aviv, Haifa and Beersheba. "I could have decided that in the first year we wouldn't go near prisons so that we'd have time to develop our programmes. But we couldn't afford to wait," says Hoffman, "especially with the bad economic times ahead." Thus, the first seminar was held soon after the establishment of the authority. "We want to transfer the responsi-

bility for rehabilitation to the prisoner himself, but in order to do so, we must provide him with information," Hoffman told the first class. The convicts told the experts that their most important needs were to learn a trade and to be free of police intimidation "on the outside." On this last point, one prisoner said: "Every place I go people remind me of my past. If you have a past in prison, you can't get work. It happens with the police, neighbours, fellow workers and bosses." Dr. Irit Friedman, a psychologist who gave a lecture on coping with life outside prison, said the stigma of having been a convict is one of the most difficult problems to be faced. She advised the prisoners to work at a lowly job at first if they had to and then gradually work themselves up. The Prisoner Rehabilitation Authority would also try to help by explaining the prisoners' problems to the public. AN INDUSTRIALIST who offered to hire prisoners after their release advised them to tell their employers immediately about their past so that they would not have to discover it for themselves. Hoffman explains that he would not be able to assess the results of the authority's work for at least another four or five years. Only then would it be apparent whether convicts who received help had been jailed again. However, he continues, the authority has already aroused considerable expectations among government authorities and even among prisoners themselves. One of the main problems, he says, is the convicts' difficulties in communicating with the "establishment." They don't know how to go about simple bureaucratic chores

that ordinary citizens take for granted. Another difficulty is their inability to get used to the daily routine of getting up in the morning and getting to work on time. The introduction of work in exchange for wages in some prisons has proved effective in ameliorating this problem. The authority is also looking for volunteers — older people with experience in social welfare or in life generally — who are willing to work with a convict from 90 days before his release until three years after he gets out of prison. IN RECENT YEARS, kibbutzim and yeshivot have been especially helpful in rehabilitating prisoners. The authority has now introduced a new programme for moshavim, which take in young ex-convicts who have no family to speak of. Life in a moshav is more private and less rigid than in a kibbutz, so the former prisoners can adapt more easily than in the elite society of a kibbutz. "If a convict can make it in a kibbutz, he will be a new man," says Hoffman. An ex-prisoner has already become a member of Kibbutz Givat Hashlosha, and another is now being considered for membership at Kibbutz Yavneh. Hoffman also plans to open a hostel for ex-convicts in a settlement in the Judean Desert, where newly rehabilitation authority will not suffice at a time. If it succeeds, others will follow. Hoffman says that his rehabilitation authority will not suffer from budget cuts and will be allowed to proceed as planned. After all, money spent on giving an ex-convict a way to an honest life can save money that would otherwise have to be expended for police operations and maintenance in prison.

Opera feast

MUSIC REVIEWS

IGOLETTO" — Opera by Giuseppe Verdi, sent by the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra conducted by Gary Bertini, with Giorgio Schell (Duke of Mantua), Terence Strang (Rigoletto), Christine Weidinger (Gilda), Rina Rintler (Sparafucile), Ada Gerslami (Mariana), Mariana Frazer (Giovanna), S. Sadoulliev (Count of Monterone), Mordechai Ben Shalom (Marullo), David Feldman (Sforza), S. Sadoulliev (Count of Copertino), in Derivay (Comet), the male chorus of Shaveh Zion Choir (Eli Doron), Jerusalem Academy Choir (David Shemer), "Amat" Choir, Jerusalem (Eli Doron), and "Nesher" choir (Jerusalem Theatre, other 22). Lord Barnett Janner Commemorative Concert.

IE JERUSALEM Symphony Orchestra semi-staged a Verdi even-ten, *Rigoletto* with a superb vocal cast of international singers hailing from England, Bulgaria, the U.S., and the USSR. Sweden, and ael. It was a feast of singing for opera fans. One must single out the outstandingly beautiful performances of Terence Strang (the Duke), Terence Strang (Rigoletto), Christine Weidinger (Gilda), Mariana Rintler (Sparafucile) and Olim Sadoulliev (Monterone), and they were well-aided by the supporting roles. The orchestra contributed to the effectiveness of the proceedings. The painfully spare scenic indica-

tions may not have given opera neophytes an idea of what was going on, but the dramatic presentations of the singers surely helped cognoscenti to fill in from memory the necessary details to grasp the happenings on stage. The JSO, seated on half of the stage to make room for the singers to move about occasionally covered the singing when musical climaxes demanded full dynamics; Gary Bertini held the orchestra firmly under control dynamically, and its members generally acquitted themselves very well. Praise and thanks are due to Gary Bertini for giving us this presentation. His drive and spirited direction made it an impressive one. Thanks are also due to the devoted staff who saw this production through so successfully, and to the Lord Barnett Janner Commemorative Fund for helping to cover the enormous expenses involved in this venture. May more of this kind follow! YOHANAN BOEHM

ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, with Yehudi Menuhin, conductor and violinist, Zvi Tzoref, violinist, and Uri Shoham, flutist (Mazn Auditorium, Tel Aviv, October 20). All Back programme: Concerto in D minor for two

violin and orchestra; Violin Concerto No. 2 in E Major; Suite No. 2 in B minor; Suite (Overture) No. 3 in D Major. SPIRITUALITY HAS always characterized the playing of Yehudi Menuhin: it was the spiritual aspect that made his interpretations great and unique. So even now, when one has to accept the decline of technical perfection, some of Menuhin's performances still touch deeply, especially when he plays Bach's slow movements, which pose no technical problems. Thus the Largo of the D minor concerto for two violins and the Adagio of the concerto in E major revealed all the human warmth and noble expression Bach's music radiates. In the two orchestral suites that Menuhin conducted, one found the same qualities that characterize Menuhin's violin performances. The music sounded even more abstract

than usual and in a way not orchestral at all. There was never any effort to impress by orchestral virtuosity or in any other way. Even in the festive D Major suite No. 3, with its three high trumpets and kettledrums, there was no pomp or particular splendour. The aria was exceptionally beautiful, sounding as if played on Menuhin's violin; it was soulful and comforting. Special mention must be made of Uri Shoham's excellent solo part in the B minor suite. It was not only beautiful in sound and accurate technically, but in conception exactly what Bach had intended: something in the middle between an obligato part, merging with the rest, and a solo. BENJAMIN BAR-AM

AN EVENT of extraordinary interest will take place next Wednesday at the Jerusalem Theatre. The orchestra and choir of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, will perform here for the Shaare Zedek Medical Centre a programme consisting of Mozart's Overture to *The Magic Flute*, his *Sinfonia Concer-*

tante, and Walton's oratorio *Belshazzar's Feast*. All the 45 members of the orchestra, the 50 choristers and the six soloists are medical and para-medical staff of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, as is the conductor, Prof. John Lumley, who is a professor of vascular surgery and also secretary of the Association of

Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland and president of the British Section of the International College of Surgeons. Professor Lumley founded the orchestra and choir of the hospital's music society in 1972, and they have presented charity concerts in England and in Rome to great acclaim. Y.B.

ISRAEL ART CALENDAR 84/5

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MACABEE DEAN is mini-polling again. This time he asks economists and financial advisers about the best way of investing money.

Investing, the question that stumps the experts

TEL AVIV. — What is the best investment in these troubled times? This question was put yesterday to several well-known economists and financial advisers, (who were all promised anonymity), with the most frequent answer being: "I don't have the slightest idea," and "anything can happen."

Everything depends on whether the government gets the economy going again, was a frequent comment. The fact that so much money is being kept in open *patam* accounts where it doesn't earn interest, one respondent said, shows that many people want to be in a position where they can jump either to the right or to the left at the slightest indication of a change. These persons don't want to lock up their savings for even a three-month period, let alone several years, he added.

In a similar poll some time ago, the most frequent advice was "to diversify as much as possible." Yesterday, only one person offered this advice, saying that the usual outlets should be chosen: short-term and long-range savings schemes, both the index and dollar-linked varieties, mutual funds and some *put* *call*.

Another person said that the most important thing was not to panic and not to swallow all the stories about impending disaster. "This country has seen a lot of tough times before: it will go through a lot more, and we have overcome the bad times in the past and will do so in the future."

Two persons noted that "a few investors are going to make a lot of money out of the present crisis, but most people are going to lose."

One person put it very succinctly: there are three attitudes to guide a person today, and all three are very subjective.

First, if you believe in the state and in the present government; second, if you believe in the state but not in the present government; and third, if you believe neither in the state nor in the present government.

What steps should you take if you believe both in the state and the present government?

Pay off your dollar-linked and index-linked debts as fast as possible. The economy is moving into a recession, possibly into a depression. Money will be in short supply. And those persons whose consciences won't let them default on their debts, will be strangled trying to pay them off.

"Of course, there will probably be some who will use the recession as an

opportunity to postpone payments indefinitely, but then their credit and moral rating will take a nose-dive."

If the government survives the present crisis and honours its promises, then the best investment (for those who do not want to diversify widely) are the "arrangement" shares of the commercial banks. These are really dollar-linked bonds providing a yield of about 17 per cent a year tax-free, if held until maturity in four years. They are a better deal than the index-linked bonds, which pay only 10 to 12 per cent tax-free (much less if their date of maturity is close) and certainly much more than "closed" *patam* accounts, whose yield is only about 4.5 per cent after tax.

However, the difficulty in all three investments, even if the government honours its pledges, is that both the "arrangement" shares and the index-linked may not continue to benefit from government support until they mature. Thus they may sink temporarily but rapidly in prices. As for the *patam*, the government may yet worsen the terms of this type of account.

What should you do if you believe in the state but not in the government, or more specifically, in its ability to honour its pledges regarding the "arrangement" shares?

"Buy anything solid," was the answer. The first thing several persons mentioned was real estate. One man said that prices were quite low at present, while another, admitting that prices were low, said that they were still high compared to most other countries. Nevertheless, it was felt, parents of marriage-age children should buy a flat for them now. "Even if the price of the flat drops, at least you can sleep at night, knowing that you have done your best," the respondent said.

Another person advised checking one's household for anything that should be replaced in a year or two — and then going out and buying it. This could be a dishwasher, washing machine, vacuum cleaner, TV set, video, anything solid, including a new car. One person knew of a man who had bought 20 cans of engine oil for his car; another had enough tins of sardines in his pantry to last him many months.

Another person quoted from the advice famous Professor Parkinson gave during a trip to Israel some years ago: "Take a trip around the world. Your investment is your good time and your memories. Neither are taxable."



Attending a party marking the 10th anniversary of the Israel Continental Bank at its new headquarters in Tel Aviv on Monday night are (from left): Walter Hesselbach, chairman of the Bank fuer Gemeinwirtschaft, West German Ambassador Niels Hansen, Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Bank Hapoalim management chairman Giora Gazit. (Fachs)

Effort to bolster \$29 benchmark price Opec may cut production by up to 3m. barrels a day

GENEVA (AP). — Seeking to avert a price war, key oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries said yesterday they would propose cutting output, possibly by as much as 3 million barrels a day.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Yamani refused to outline the proposed cuts in Opec's current official daily output of 17.5m. barrels. But when asked about the envisioned reduction by his nation, the cartel's largest producer, he said: "It will be substantial."

Yamani was speaking following a two-day meeting with ministers from Opec members Kuwait, Algeria, Venezuela, United Arab Emirates and Libya, and non-Opec Egypt and Mexico.

The proposed reductions, which Mexico Deputy Energy Minister Eliseo Mendoza said had been discussed in "runs" of 1-3 million barrels a day, will be discussed by the cartel when its 13 members hold an emergency meeting here next Monday after further study by Opec experts.

At the same time, Yamani and Mexican Oil Minister Labastida Ochoa were to try to persuade Opec member Nigeria this week to back off its \$2 price cut, which followed similar reductions by Britain and Norway last week that prompted the October 29 emergency meeting.

News of the agreement by the six key Opec nations initially left financial markets unimpressed, with the

dollar, the main currency in which oil exports are billed, showing little change.

The Opec leaders apparently invited Mexico, which has held observer status before, and Egypt, which has not been at such deliberations since its peace treaty with Israel, in order to forestall their following the British, Norwegian and Nigerian price cuts and igniting a price war.

The reluctance of many key oil ministers to discuss the output cuts with reporters here suggested to some observers they wished to avoid questions about actual production exceeding the 17.5m. barrel ceiling, and some members possibly selling their oil below the benchmark Opec price of \$29.

Mendoza said the three "runs" involved cutbacks of 1m., 2m. or 3m. barrels a day of overall output, but other sources at the meeting said the ministers seemed to favour a "flexible" level of about 2m. barrels a day.

Such a cut, however, will be difficult to pinpoint now, since it could be based on an estimated actual Opec production of 18.5m. barrels a day due to some cartel members exceeding quotas. It could also reflect Opec confidence that demand for its oil could rise to 18.5m. or 19.5m. barrels during the winter months, some oil analysts said.

"It's a question of strategies that now must be implemented," Mendoza said, indicating that his country would support the cutbacks by saying "we are here to defend prices."

U.S. firm bids for Incoba shares

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Plumptre Ltd., a hitherto unknown foreign company owned by Sami Roar, an American citizen, has made a tender offer to buy at least 10 per cent of the equity of the Incoba investment company. The price offered by Plumptre is much higher than the recent level of Incoba's shares on the Tel Aviv stock exchange.

The tender offer is in force for the whole of this week, and expires at noon next Monday. According to the terms of the offer, Plumptre will pay Incoba shareholders who tender their shares, a price of 306 on the ISO.1 shares and 162 for the ISO.5 shares. At the close of trading before last week's Simhat Tora break on the exchange, the respective prices were 200 and 91. Furthermore, the price is linked to the dollar for the period from the date the shares are tendered until the actual payment is made, on October 31.

However, the offer is conditional

on the would-be buyer receiving at least 10 per cent of the equity of Incoba, whether through ISO.1 shares or ISO.5 shares. If more than ten per cent is offered, Plumptre may refuse to buy the extra shares, in which case it will buy a uniform proportion of all the shares tendered to it. Plumptre declares in its offer that the intention in making the offer is to acquire a stake in the company as a long-term investment.

As noted, neither Plumptre, nor the man behind it, Sami Roar, has any interests at present in Incoba, or any other listed firm on the Tel Aviv exchange.

The main shareholders in Incoba are Uri Even and Nissim Baradzik, who hold, directly and through another company, about 35 per cent of the equity and 45 per cent of the voting rights, as well as the contractor Yeshaya Landau and the Eliyahu Insurance firm, each of whom holds 10 per cent of the equity and the voting power.

First reports suggested that these shareholders were not informed in advance of Plumptre's move, and there is thus no indication, as yet, of whether any of them will be attracted by the offer.

However, it transpires that Uri Even met Sami Roar in the U.S. some time ago, at which time Roar made an offer to buy some of Incoba shares, and thereby create closer links between his own company and Incoba, which are in the same field. Even, it seems, did not take this offer seriously, and did not even bother to pass it on to his colleagues — hence the surprise engendered by the tender offer.

It should be noted that all the tender offers recently made for companies on the Tel Aviv exchange, such as Magrir's bid for Afar V-Sela and Redimix's attempt to increase its stake in Tadir Cement, have resulted in absolute failure, with only tiny numbers of shares being tendered. It remains to see if Plumptre will fare any better.

Direct computer link at Mizrahi

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter
TEL AVIV. — In a new move towards widespread "home-banking," Bank Mizrahi has announced the introduction of services allowing individuals or corporate customers with their own computers, to link-up directly with the bank's central computer. These customers will thus be able to obtain full and up-to-date information on all their financial activities in Mizrahi at any time.

Home Information, a subsidiary of Bank Mizrahi, is offering this service, available for \$1 per day, and will make any necessary changes in the equipment of the customer, or supply him cables or any other items he may need to make the connection.

Once connected, the owner of the computer or micro-computer will be able to use a secret code to obtain any or all of the following services: the last transactions in the account

(up to 200 transactions); current balance; foreign currency account balances and deposit details; check deposits; deferred or cancelled checks and portfolio valuations.

In addition, he will be able to hook into the bank's computer to obtain daily foreign currency and share prices.

Having paid his daily dollar, the subscriber to the service can use it as much as he wants, at any time of the day.

Customers who do not possess a computer can obtain from the bank a Tsag-Phon system — a tiny screen of book size, which allows the customer to hook into the bank's computer from a telephone point anywhere, and obtain information on his account.

The obvious advantage of this system is that it is light, portable and easy to use. It will reduce the pressure on the bank's phone lines, while

giving the customer more complete information than he could readily obtain over the phone speaking to a clerk.

Ya'akov Rosenwasser, general manager of Home Information, noted that in the future the bank would allow two-way inter-active connections between the customer and the bank, such as transfers from one account to another and standing orders.

Rosenwasser also explained that Mizrahi could connect up with any micro-computer available on the market.

Mizrahi's management expects these developments to allow thousands of customers to join the network of banking data and thus benefit from real-time financial information, from anywhere in the country, saving themselves time and money and cutting the banking costs.

Talks begin on cleaning up Med Sea

BRUSSELS (Reuter). — Representatives of 17 countries bordering the Mediterranean began talks in Brussels yesterday with the European Commission on ways of cleaning up what is one of the world's most polluted seas.

The four-day talks are aimed at examining and improving cooperation on pollution, including prevention, commission officials said.

According to Aldo Manos, coordinating director of the UN Mediterranean Protection Programme, between 20 and 25 per cent of Mediterranean beaches are not up to standard because of the one million tons of oil discharged there every year by tankers.

The Mediterranean was also threatened by industrial discharge and by sewage, he said.

EEC and Jordan to strengthen ties

LUXEMBURG (Reuter). — The European Community and Jordan yesterday agreed to work together more closely to stimulate Jordan's economic development through trade and joint agricultural and industrial projects, diplomats here said.

The agreement emerged from the first-ever joint cooperation council meeting between Community foreign ministers and a Jordanian delegation led by Foreign Minister Taher Al-Masri.

Future aid projects will focus on promoting European investments in Jordan, developing the country's farming, self-sufficiency, scientific cooperation and education, according to a joint statement issued after the meeting.

Diplomats said the Jordanian delegation urged that its farm products be given improved access to Community markets. But they added that Irish Foreign Minister Peter Barry, current chairman of Community ministerial meetings, told Al-Masri that entry negotiations with Spain and Portugal would have to be completed first.

The European Community and Jordan are linked by a 1977 agreement providing for economic cooperation and financial aid to Jordan totalling 103 million European Currency Units (ECU), about \$77m., between 1977 and 1986.

The Community traditionally shows a surplus in trade with Jordan. In 1983 its exports to Jordan totalled \$820m. compared with imports of \$20 million.

AQUINO

(Continued from Page One)
In a statement distributed by the Government Information Service, Custodio said: "God knows my men and I are without guilt in this crime."
Marcos declared in a television broadcast to the nation: "The probable indictment (of the seven)... in no way dishonours the military corps."

But Marcos said he was aware that the findings had not ended "contradictions of opinion and testimony, over the case."

Agrava rejected allegations by the military that Aquino's killer was a Communist agent identified as Rolando Galman. He was shot by security forces moments after the former senator was gunned down on his return from three years of voluntary exile in the U.S.

Agrava admitted she and the other members of the commission had disagreed on "how high up we should go."

She named the six soldiers who formed a military escort for Aquino at the airport as "those definitely

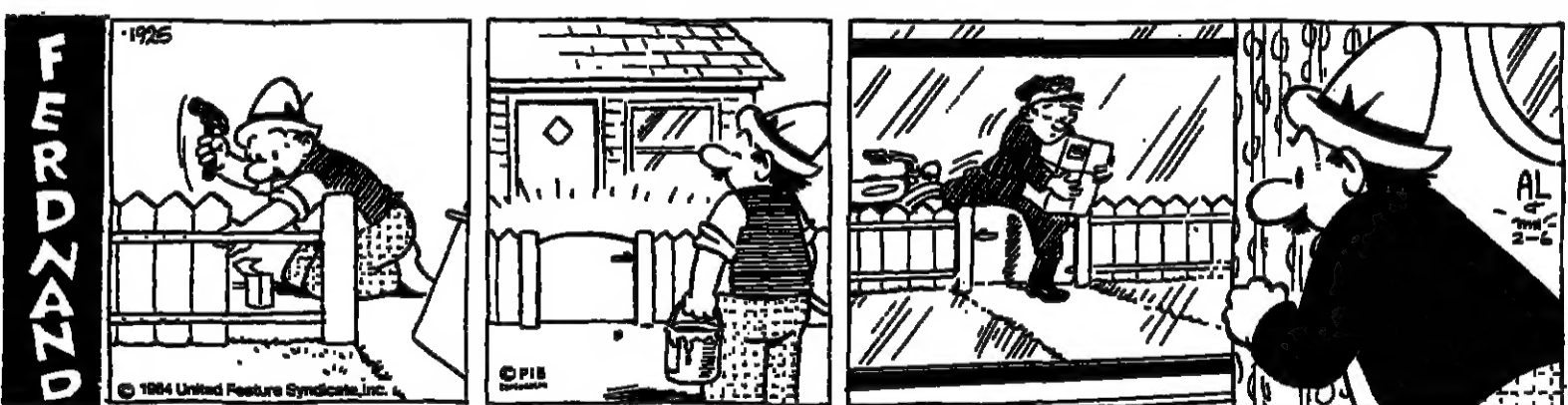
identified as the plotters." But she added it might be difficult to prove beyond doubt which one pulled the trigger.

Marcos said Custodio and the other six would be tried by special civilian courts.

Agrava said Ver ordered that Aquino be arrested and detained. But Custodio disobeyed the order and told his subordinates to bring Aquino down the steps from the aircraft before he was shot.

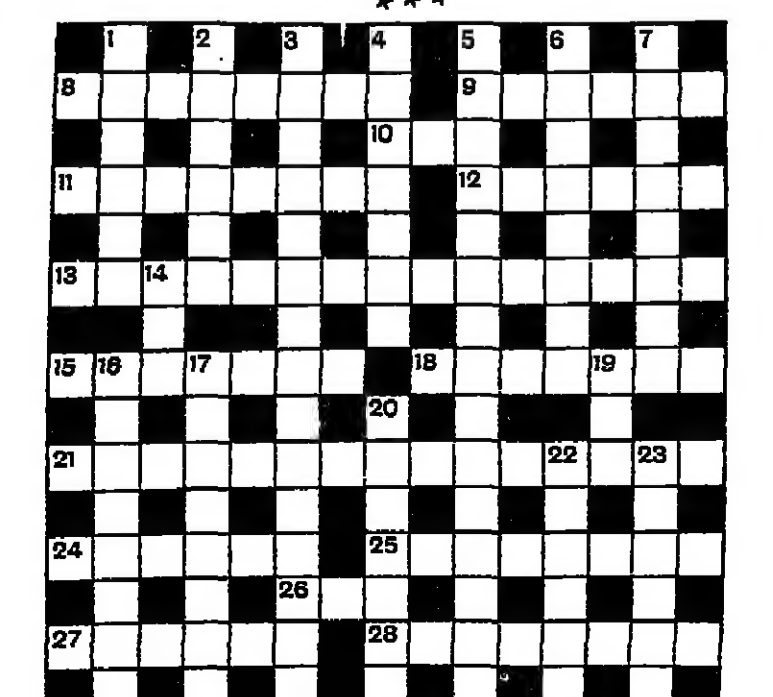
"Thus, Custodio became chiefly responsible for the actual implementation of Plan Bravo (code name for the security operation) resulting in the assassination and identifying him as a plotter," her 120-page report said.

Commission sources said the report of the other four members to be presented to Marcos today would name more than 20 people — several of them generals — as part of a military conspiracy. It would also detail subsequent attempts to cover up the plot. (Reuter, AP).



ONE-AND-ONE CROSSWORD

- | | |
|---|---|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 8 Knobbly Piccadilly figure spotted in the Underground (8) | 1 An office desk littered with drawers (6) |
| 9 In the eyes of the poet it circles the earth (8) | 2 Highly refined engine-driver (6) |
| 10 Small girl who's ill-disposed (3) | 3 Intimidating tactics of the man who? (8, 7) |
| 11 It could well be a sell-out (8) | 4 They are certainly not big shots (7) |
| 12 Drop round to watch TV maybe (4, 2) | 5 Convivial academic of exceptional talent? (5, 4, 6) |
| 13 Completely absorbed in some other matter? (5, 10) | 6 Repeal a law or turn in another tea-bag? (8) |
| 14 A pattern that is hard to cut round (7) | 7 Harsh-toned holy man I'd hire out (8) |
| 15 The best policy for a cruciferous plant (7) | 8 Left with a thousand to beat (3) |
| 16 The wretched sculptor did when commissioned to carve Nino's statue? (5, 1, 5, 6) | 9 Trained cadet due for a change (8) |
| 17 She goes into California for Tipperary rock (8) | 10 Take the innkeeper's part? (4, 4) |
| 18 Lady of fashion badly taken in by the coalman (8) | 11 Ring us up about a trifling sum of money (3) |
| 19 The Cretan mount Midas topped and tailed (3) | 12 Proper sort of tea for a high churchman (7) |
| 20 Why we get so near distraction? (6) | 21 A pennant I'd love tucked into a firearm (6) |
| 21 Pass above and became sharper (4, 4) | 22 Unusually severe old magistrates (6) |



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4 Ruses | ACROSS
7 Festooned
9 Ringier
10 Lake
11 Even
12 Vacillate |
| DOWN
1 Detected
2 Freshwater duck
3 Large long wave
4 Detail
5 Globe
6 Fantastic
7 Resolve
8 Hungarian composer
12 Lavinal
13 Landfill
14 Cleveland resort
15 Plunging dive
16 Lower in quality
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22 Face | DOWN
14 Venerable
15 Light cavalryman
17 Injured
18 Make merry
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20 Rebut
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24 Merchant
25 Fame |

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Money Matters

Free shares ahead for a change

Volume continued to expand slightly in both share and bond trading yesterday, but the results achieved in the various sectors showed a pattern different from the last few days.

The rate of price rises slipped in all the bond sectors - including the quasi-bonds in the "arrangement" sector. The bank share index was up by only half a percent, and regular bonds did not fare much better, managing less than one percent overall. When compared to a devaluation rate that yesterday was again in excess of 1.5 per cent, it is clear that these moderate gains are no longer sufficient to keep the market abreast of the fall in the shekel.

However, their recent sharp rises have given these sectors, in particular the bank shares, a "reserve" to fall back on.

It was thus the "free" share market that became, by default, the market leader. The volume in this market was less than 15,000 million, or about \$650,000, and advances were only 2 to 1 ahead of declines, but strong performance in the key sectors of industrials (+3.84 per cent) were sufficient to move the non-bank index ahead by 2.22 per cent.

The background to this positive performance was probably the news of a serious government push to achieve a wage-and-price freeze in the immediate future.

Market participants are extremely skeptical about the likelihood of any such deal being signed, much less implemented. Indeed, they have little confidence in the ability of the national unity government to put together any coherent policy, after the disappointments of the last few weeks. Nevertheless, any increased likelihood of a price freeze results in a knee-jerk reaction of demand for shares - particularly those of export-oriented industrial companies.

Analysts are unwilling to predict the future trend of the market in the absence of a clear government programme, but there is the constant hope that maybe, despite everything, the economy will still be

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By PINHAS LANDAU

saved. In that case one of the first and greatest beneficiaries will be the share market. In fact, as noted in this column, a reduction in inflation would also be a major boon to the bond market, under current conditions.

For the present, though, the watchword remains to wait and see, so that any real improvement in the markets will certainly come after an economic policy is in place and seen to be working, rather than in anticipation of such an eventuality.

Announcements:
Ata remains in the news on a daily basis. (See story below.) Meanwhile, Ata's equally troubled subsidiary (through Teta), the Alaska Sportlife fashion company, confirmed to the exchange that it is in a severe cash crunch, the result of ongoing operating losses, and cannot meet its obligations. Its parent, Teta, pumped \$400,000 into the company in order to cover the wage bill for September.

It has now been decided that the workforce will take a vacation from October 26 until November 4, during which time the management will discuss ways of revamping the company.

Alaska has no general manager at present, and another board member, Doron Goder, resigned two days ago. Goder was general manager of Teta and a member of its board in that company. He has relinquished these posts as well.

Alaska has promised to send the exchange a complete picture of its liabilities. The Dead Sea Works, in a happier announcement, followed up its previous communications on the claims made against it by American phosphate companies. On October 22 the committee set up by the U.S. Department of Commerce to examine these claims decided that

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices
General Share Index 449.60 +4.47%
Non-bank Index 301.78 +1.61%
Arrangement 587.21 +5.51%
Industrials 330.69 +1.63%
Bond Index 385.85 1.42%

Turnovers
Shares IS 883.3m.
Bonds IS1174.9m.
Totals IS2058.2m.
Advances 304
Declines 133
of which 5% + 70
of which 5% - 34
"Buyers only" 15
"Sellers only" 5

Bond market trends
4% fully-linked: Rises to 4%
3% fully-linked: Rises to 3.5%
80% linked: Rises to 3.5%
Double-option: Rises to 3.5%
Dollar-linked: Rises to 3.5%

Most Active Shares
Caposol 12700 IS174.5m. +700
Lemal 8110 IS139.2m. +590
IDB 18450 IS90.3m. +200

Sharpest Moves
Kadmon 121 -31 -21.7%
Mar Laz ISI 1311 +171 +15%
Intergras op. 55 -12 -17.9%

Dead Sea's exports do not harm the U.S. industry and ordered the cancellation of the equalizing tax of 3.64 per cent, which has been in operation since September. A final ruling on the issue of the dumping duty imposed will be given only on January 25, 1985.

Modul Cement and its subsidiary, Modul Cement Industrial Investments, responding to a newspaper story saying that one of its plants was on the verge of closure, confirmed that the factory in Carmiel making prefabricated buildings is in financial difficulties and has no orders on its hands. The company's management will meet urgently to discuss the situation and future of the factory.

The Carmiel plant lost IS19 million in the first half of this year, while the parent, Modul Cement Industrial Investments, made a profit of IS\$6m. in this period from its other subsidiaries. The Carmiel operation contributed 30 per cent of the parent company's total sales in the first half of 1984.

Gibor Textiles may buy Ata

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. - The owner of the Gibor textile firm, Garshon Rozov, confirmed yesterday that his company is interested in buying the ailing Ata textile concern.

Rozov, in a telephone interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, said his representatives had already made inquiries with the Industry and Trade Ministry and would begin to investigate matters for themselves today.

Rozov, whose company employs about 3,000 people and has an annual turnover of \$55 million - of which \$40m. is in exports, said that if Gibor does buy Ata it would probably do so in partnership with the Rasco building firm.

Meanwhile, Ata chairman Asher Levy yesterday reiterated the offer by the company's board of directors to give the textile concern to the Histadrut or to the workers themselves.

"If as the Histadrut and the Haifa Labour Council claims, the firm has sound economic base, then why don't they take it over?" he asked. "We are prepared to transfer to them all our shares in Ata, Teta and Alaska Sportlife and we can do that tomorrow if they want," he said.

He refused allegations that the board and Ata's owners, the Eisenberg group, wanted to close the production side of the business.

Lea Levi adds:

The Histadrut, will insist that any receiver appointed for Ata will operate the plant instead of closing it. Gideon Ben-Yisrael, who holds the employment portfolio in the Histadrut's Central Committee, told the press in Tel Aviv yesterday. He said he is sure the Histadrut will not buy Ata and he does not know about any chance of the Histadrut becoming involved in a group which would buy Ata. The receiver, he said, should keep the plant operating, using funds from the Eisenberg group and from the government until a buyer can be found.

Pinhas Groob, head of the Ata staff committee, said he believes the Eisenberg group deliberately mismanaged the firm in order to get rid of the production end of the business and concentrate on the commercial side. "It took talent to do as bad a management job as they did," he said. "We kept telling them that there was too much waste, too much executive staff, too many cars being hired and purchased, but they told us it was none of our business."

He added that Ata is now receiving orders from all over the world based on its newest collection of samples, but that there is nobody to handle these orders. "There is a complete anarchy," he said that Ata has developed two new unique fabrics, one bullet-proof and the other fireproof, but that no effort was being made to market them.

Asked if his committee would agree to more workers being fired, he said that it had already agreed to hundreds of workers being let go over the last few years, but that it would only agree to further dismissal if the remaining workers would be assured of employment.

Bank of Israel exchange rates

	IS
October 23, 1984	480.37
U.S. dollar	578.46
British sterling	156.72
German mark	51.073
French franc	138.94
Dutch guilder	190.40
Swiss franc	55.225
Swedish krona	54.050
Norwegian krone	43.355
Danish krone	75.252
Finnish mark	364.37
Canadian dollar	401.21
Australian dollar	267.54
South African rand	77.457
Belgian franc (10)	223.09
Austrian schilling (10)	252.66
Italian lire (1000)	194.84
Japanese yen (100)	485.53
Irish pound	278.31
Spanish peseta (100)	1181.7
Jordanian dinar	55.210
Lebanese lira	389.10
Egyptian pound	

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INTERBANK SPOT RATES:	
US\$	1.2040/1.2047
DM	3.0640/3.0647
Dutch G	3.4330/3.4340
Swiss F	2.5232/2.5242
Belgian C	62.0062/0.02
French FR	9.4010/9.4040
Italian L	190.5012/0.25
Yen	246.1024/0.25
US\$	0.99250/0.9930
Gold\$339.40	
FORWARD RATES:	
1 month	1.20344/1.20306
3 months	1.20344/1.20240
6 months	1.20344/1.20240
1 year	1.20344/1.20240

Supplied by ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK LTD.

Commercial Banks

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Commercial Banks

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Real Estate, Building

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Mortgage Banks

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Financial Institutions

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Insurance

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Trade & Services

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Food and Tobacco

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Services

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Hotels, Tourism

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Textiles and Clothing

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Metals and Metal Products

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Electrical Machinery

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Building Materials

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Chemicals, Rubber, Plastics

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Oil Exploration

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

New Listings

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

Research & Development

	23.10.84	% change
Bank Leumi	239	+3.12
Bank Hapoalim	231	+1.2
Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2
Bank Leumi	231	+1.2
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Bank Mizrahi	231	+1.2

New Listings

1213.11	-4.09
537.37	-4.29
143.51	+1.05
89,687,200	

THE JERUSALEM POST

Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing Director

Erwin Frenkel
Editor

Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON, who was Editor until 1955; Editor 1955-1974
TED LURIE, Editor 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR, EDITORIAL OFFICES AND
ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, Room 200, Jerusalem P.O. Box 81
(91000) Telephone 528181, Telex 26211. TEL AVIV 11 Rehov Carlebach, P.O. Box 20126
(61201) Telephone 294222. HAIFA 16 Rehov Nardim, Hader Hacamel, P.O. Box 4810
(31067) Telephone 645444. Published daily, except Saturdays, in Jerusalem, Israel by The
Jerusalem Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the
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Packaged to fail

THE national unity government was expected to come up with a comprehensive programme and audacious decisions to save the economy from collapse. That is what it was set up for, and the public mood was ready to pay the price.

What it has produced instead, by yesterday's decision to adopt the Sanbar-Gafny plan for a package deal, with further budget cuts to be spaced out over two-three years, is neither comprehensive nor audacious. It is a reversal to the gradualist tactics and the attempts to muddle through that have characterized all the governments that preceded the present one.

According to the plan, inflation is not to be stopped, and not even to be nearly stopped. It is to be slowed gradually. A shekel-based package deal is to reduce wage costs by getting the wage earners to waive a third of the cost-of-living allowance due for the price increases that preceded this package deal and those that will follow it. The manufacturers are expected to absorb two thirds of their real cost increases and refrain from raising their prices by more than that. If matters get out of hand and real wages decline by more than the predicted level, or costs rise by more than is foreseen, the government will step in with tax reductions to soften the blow. In addition, government expenditure is to be cut by another \$500m., in addition to the \$800m. already decided upon - and all these cuts are to be spaced out over two-three years.

With the rosiest optimism about the feasibility and effects of this scheme, the most that can be hoped for is a reduction of inflation to 200 per cent a year after some six months.

That would no doubt be cause for jubilant speeches by the prime minister, the finance minister, the economics and planning minister and their alternates and deputies. And indeed, would cutting inflation by 80, 60 or even only 40 per cent not be "success"?

Unfortunately, no. An inflation rate of 200 per cent is not something that the economy can live with on a stable course. And budget cuts - which with further elimination of subsidies will reach a total of \$1.7b. - spaced out over three years and concentrated on activities that have the least impact on the import bill, will not make any significant contribution to improving our balance of payments. That, after all, is the main purpose of the planned budget cuts.

But there is no need to speculate about the results of the scheme, because it will not work. There is, in official circles, an eloquent silence about the linchpin of any such package deal - about the ways and means by which a price freeze is to be implemented. There are more outspoken statements about the cut in real wages that is the real and only thrust of the scheme, and which is to be backed up by the unemployment that the budget cuts will create. But even the size of the real wage cuts is no more than guesswork.

That, in the last analysis, is why the scheme will fail. The wage earners were and still are prepared to make their contribution in the sacrifice. But even if their representatives will agree to sign a blank cheque for an indeterminate wage cut, it won't be honoured. Some major works committees have already got together to give the Histadrut leadership "a helping hand" in resisting a scheme that means a one-sided burden.

Many, if not most, of the professionals who have laboured at economic recovery programmes have recommended the adoption of a form of semi-dollarization, so as to put the cards on the table and make it clear what sacrifice is required and who shall bear what share. Their advice has been rejected. The government insists on keeping a few aces up its sleeve, to be slammed on the table when the game goes against it.

The government has missed a golden opportunity to set the economy on a path of recovery and stabilization. It has thereby as well, threatened its own future. In the prevailing political stalemate that led to its establishment, such failure will jeopardize our democratic system itself, by encouraging those who would seek a strongman to "restore order."

PERES-WAGES

(Continued from Page One)

Ben-Gurion, he said. He added that Arab bank in those areas.

But the prime minister cast doubt as to the seriousness of the intentions of the "do-gooders" when he said that experience has shown that "as soon as you issue them a permit their activity ends." This had happened in connection with the construction of a hospital in Ramallah and East Jerusalem, he said.

Peres declared that he has "established" a bureau in Tel Aviv (this in reply to Herut's Yehoshua Matsa). The prime minister's bureau in Tel Aviv had been established by David Ben-Gurion, he said. He added that there is business the prime minister has to do in Tel Aviv, and asked whether it is any worse for him to do it in the Kirya there than at the Herut of Labour Party headquarters in Tel Aviv.

By a straight coalition-opposition vote, the Knesset endorsed the prime minister's statement on Monday and his reply of yesterday.

In the debate Victor Shemtov (Mapam) expressed regret that the prime minister had not spoken to the nation with daring. Peres, he said, is capable of doing so, but not in a paralyzed government, in which ev-

ery minister sets up his own team of economic experts

Peres is mistaken if he thinks that economic problems can be divorced from political problems, Shemtov said. Without progress in settling our political problems we can not look forward to the foreign investment that is essential for economic growth, he added.

But if a single minister can impose a veto on any move toward a settlement in Lebanon, what hope is there for this government? asked Shemtov. Mapam's warning that a Labour-Likud government would only be able to decide not to decide was being borne out.

Shulamit Aloni (Citizens Rights Movement) said it does not make sense for the government to abolish the subsidy on electricity, and thus hurt welfare cases and the elderly, while Israel Electric Corporation workers with extravagant salaries get free electricity.

Yehoshua Matsa (Likud-Herut): The public does not expect the unity government to accomplish miracles, but it does expect leadership and ability to take decisions. Although the government decided to cut \$1 billion from the state budget, it is doubtful whether it will actually cut \$200 million in the next six months.

READERS' LETTERS

JEW OF UNNA

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir - I am researching the history of the former Jewish community of Unna, West Germany, and am anxious to establish contact with former Jewish residents of the town.

ANDREAS ANTEPOTH, Im Telgel 42, 4708 Kamen - Mehler, West Germany.

Unhealthy climate

By NEIL CAPLAN

FEATHERS GET ruffled when the doves find that their line of thought and their public defence of it angers the hawks. For example, Mordechai Bar-On, now an MK, was attacked by Americans for a Safe Israel article participating in an Israeli-Palestinian speaking tour in the U.S. But the need for peace activists to defend themselves against McCarthyist attacks from the likes of Americans for a Safe Israel is not a new phenomenon in Zionist history. Today the central issue concerns Israel's willingness to negotiate with Palestinian representatives.

Before 1948, internal divisions were sparked by the apparent readiness of some Jewish "moderates" to accept something less than the declared official goal of a Jewish state. Bar-On and "Peace Now" are but the latest manifestations in a long tradition of internal Zionist dissenters. Men like Hayim Kalvaryski, Judah Magnes, Lord Herbert Samuel and Norman Bentwich also had to face public abuse from those who feared their "dangerous" proposals for a settlement with the Arabs.

The "sin" of the earlier peace activists was to maintain their own independent personal contacts with Arabs. This came under attack as undermining the activities of the Jewish Agency's Political Department, run for many years by Moshe Shertok (Sharett), Bernard (Dov) Yosef, and Eliahu Sasson.

Because Magnes and the others did not share the Agency's inherent pessimism about reaching a settlement with the Arabs, they often jumped into "negotiations" which unfortunately ended in frustration and failure. The elected leaders and appointed officials of the Jewish Agency had their hands full dealing not only with their own network of Arab contacts, but also with the

complications caused by the Jewish dissenters.

IN THE INTERNAL debates which were generated by the unauthorized activities, speeches or writings of these dissenters, the leadership stressed that it knew better than the peace activists how to "deal with the Arab question." Leaders rallied many followers to their own pessimistic, hard-line view that the only solution lay in "toughing it out" and in avoiding concessions. Hesitations or internal divisions, they argued, had to be eliminated or minimized in order not to undermine the official stance (vis-a-vis the British, in those days) and in order not to give comfort to the Arab "enemy."

The underlying theory, then as now, is that any conciliatory approach will be interpreted as a sign of "weakness," which will only stiffen the opponent's stance. As early as 1936, American Zionist leader Julius Simon deplored the mentality of certain leaders who were, in his view, too quick "to encourage our harassed masses in Poland and in other European countries to interpret conciliation as weakness, a statesmanlike attitude as treason."

Although today's issues are different, the pattern and climate of the debates are strikingly similar. Mainline and right-wing spokesmen have had little difficulty in winning the credibility battle against dissenting views. This has been done by making eloquent and passionate appeals to patriotic gut-feelings and by playing upon public fears, sometimes to the point where democratic tolerance for minority views has almost vanished.

In combating would-be dissenters, the main goal has been to discredit, silence and/or intimidate those who would dare to deviate from a hard-line approach to relations with the Arabs. Despite the nominal freedom of expression within the Zionist movement, pre-1948 Zionist offi-

cials often appeared heavy-handed, arrogant, or intimidating in maintaining their authority and in dealing with dissenters.

Although he could never have proved it, there were times when Dr. Magnes privately suspected that Moshe Shertok was simply out to "get" him. In addition, right-wing hooliganism served to intimidate individuals or to disrupt public meetings. Other methods used by the centre and the right against would-be peace activists, both before and since 1948, have included character assassination, name-calling and subtle manipulation of news-stories.

NOT SURPRISINGLY, perhaps, the heroism and greatness of Zionist and Israeli leaders have come to be measured largely in terms of their ability to eliminate doubts and defeatism, and to foster optimism in the midst of increasingly gloomy scenarios. In times of despair, people have looked for - and found - dynamic, forceful leaders who have encouraged them not to give up their just struggle, which would, they promised, be triumphant in the end if they "stood firm."

It is difficult to deny the historic importance of strong leadership to the growth of the Yishuv and of the Zionist movement. A degree of toughness was indeed required for ensuring the physical survival of pre-1948 Palestinian Jewry and the creation of a sovereign Israeli state.

But are we not now paying a heavy price for an overdose of toughness vis-a-vis both our opponents and internal critics? The price I am referring to is the psychological damage which continues to mount. Apart from the trauma of recurring insecurity, destruction and loss of life, generations have been brainwashed into viewing the other side through the prism of unending distrust and hatred. Even among the better-informed, who ought to know bet-

Dry Bones



ter, there has been, consciously or unconsciously, a fostering of illusions and self-delusion about one's own monopoly of virtue and the other party's permanently evil intentions. Especially among spokesmen on the right there has developed a sanctimonious closed-mindedness which shuts out inconvenient realities and which is blind to its own use of the double-standard.

In order to win and maintain office, politicians, of the centre and even the centre-left, must dogmatically reaffirm demands which are utterly irreconcilable with those of the other side and incapable of full satisfaction. Is not a pragmatic leadership which works for attainable goals to be preferred to a "heroic" one which may offer temporary emotional gratification but which feeds us dreams which are not achievable in the real world?

What is needed today, both in Israel and in the Diaspora, is not a blind "closing of the ranks" behind what may turn out to be misguided policies, but rather a healthier climate for internal debate, discussion and the careful weighing of options. In such a climate, dissenters would not be accused of treason by an automatic reflex which is based on an uncritical faith in absolute Israeli righteousness, an unlimited self-confidence in Israeli/Jewish power, and/or the *a priori* assumption that "there are no options."

To prepare ourselves for an end to the Israel-Palestine dispute, we need - perhaps even more than the right political conditions among the main rivals and interested third-parties - a fresh, new way of thinking about and discussing this conflict.

Dr. Caplan teaches humanities at Vanier College, Montreal.

Dangerous dissent

By MICHAEL D. SCHUFFLER

rescue Jewish refugees from Europe. Prominent American Jews and some respected American Jewish organizations even argued against the creation of the State of Israel.

In the wake of the 1967 war and the reunification of Jerusalem, the American Jewish community became united as never before; its solidarity with Israel unquestioned, the voices of all opponents but a fringe group of Jewish anti-Zionists were silenced.

The Arabs recognize the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship and they recognize the important role of the American Jewish community in keeping this relationship strong. Their strategy in the U.S., according to Mohammed Mehdi, director of the American-Arab Relations Committee, is that "the road to the liberation of Palestine is through Washington."

In other words, the strategic balance between the Arabs and Israel can be changed by weakening the U.S.-Israel relationship. And Washington can be affected through grassroots America by swaying American public opinion away from Israel and towards the Arabs so that our elected representatives in Washington will begin to back away from the strong U.S.-Israel relationship.

The strategy has been to forge alliances with blacks, left-wing organizations and some elements of the mainline Christian Churches in order to affect American public opinion at the grassroots. Yet it is not these groups which concern me, because I believe that if American Jews are united, we will prevail.

What concerns me is the recent emergence of Jews and Jewish groups who through misguided idealism are helping to chip away at the wall of Jewish solidarity with Israel. I am also concerned at the extent to which these American Jews are being encouraged by Israelis in the "peace camp" who, through American Jews, may be unwittingly aiding Arab efforts to turn American public opinion away from Israel.

Item: An Israeli reserve officer who was imprisoned for refusing to fight in Lebanon, recently told a Seattle audience, "If Jews in the United States don't speak out against Israeli policy, it's like agreeing with it. Speaking out can support the Israeli peace movement."

Item: Two American Jews, active in the Jesse Jackson campaign in Seattle, and in the Seattle chapter of the New Jewish Agenda, were major supporters of a resolution at the Democratic Party convention in King County, State of Washington, which stated that "the PLO should be recognized by the United States Government and should be an equal partner with Israel in the Middle East peace negotiations." It was just narrowly defeated.

Item: The same two Jews succeeded in getting the Washington State Democratic Convention to pass a resolution stating that "the Palestinian people have the right to self-determination and a homeland, while Israel must be allowed (my emphases) to exist within secure and internationally-recognized borders."

Although any mention of the Camp David Accords was studiously avoided, this resolution passed. Although offered by the Jackson delegation, the only two people who spoke for the Jackson delegation were not blacks, but those same two Jews, who were quite passionate in their arguments.

Item: A travelling road show: Mordechai Bar-On and Mohammed Milhem came to Seattle for "dialogue" under the sponsorship of the American Friends Service Committee, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (a pro-PLO group), and the New Jewish Agenda. The dialogue, according to reliable observers of at least one of the meetings, degenerates into an anti-Israel propaganda barrage by Milhem, while Bar-On hardly says anything other than disagreeing with Milhem's interpretation of history. Of course, the media is on hand dutifully to report the proceedings.

THOSE AMERICAN Jews who would be the first to defend the legitimacy of "black power" and "black solidarity" are also the first to decry "Jewish power" and "Jewish solidarity." The lesson of Jewish powerlessness, does not shake their view of a universalism and utopianism that, in their minds, transcends Jewish interests and the continuing fight for Jewish survival.

I believe that these American Jews, by pursuing their own agenda of close ties with Third World-oriented, pro-Palestinian American groups, can harm Jewish interests by threatening the strength of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Even Israelis on the left must understand that for Israel to take risks for peace will require a guarantee of strong U.S. support. A

weakening of support will make Israelis less likely to give up anything.

Yet if Israelis within the Peace Camp encourage left-wing American Jews to express vigorous dissent from Israel's policies within the American political system, public forums and media, the result will be inimical to Israel's interest. When American Jews support pro-PLO resolutions, things have gone too far.

Israel's Peace Camp should be aware of the extreme nature of some American Jews who are finding legitimacy for their views by belonging to newly-established left-wing Jewish organizations and operating behind the smokescreen of "dissent." They must be aware of the difference between private, legitimate, and responsible dissent within the Jewish community as opposed to public dissent in the general community via the vehicles of political action and the targeted use of the media. They must realize that the poorly-informed American public will pay more attention to Jewish critics of Israel than to non-Jewish critics.

The question that must be answered by the Israeli peace camp is whether they really want to see any possibility of a weakening of the U.S.-Israel relationship. This is what they risk if they don't address the issue of the increasing amount of dissent and activism in the public and political arenas by their friends within left-wing American Jewish organizations.

I believe that if these Israelis recognize the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship and the importance of American public opinion in maintaining this relationship, they will counsel against such irresponsible dissent.

Dr. Schuffler is chairman of the Community Relations Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle.

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DECEMBER '84 ISSUE

STEIMATZKY MEANS BOOKS and press

A QUESTION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir - Once again, the trumpet of "morality" is being blown by David Landau ("New men - old morals" - October 5). Once again, a standard is being set for Israel which no other nation on earth would even dream of implementing. This being the case, does it ever occur to Landau and his fellow "liberals" that the standard is sheer nonsense, especially when we are fighting for our very existence?

But then, having succeeded so swimmingly after Sabra and Shatilla in degrading Israel in its own eyes, as well as in the eyes of the world, our modern-day prophet cannot let go. To add insult to injury, he dares to quote our prayer book - "And thou, O Lord, shall reign, exalted in justice, sanctified in righteousness." If only he would understand that, indeed, when the "Lord reigns," there will be justice.

Of Landau and his ilk, our rabbis have long since said: "He who is

merciful to the cruel will end by being cruel to the righteous." I suggest to Mr. Landau that the rabbis have more insight than he does as to the nature of the Lord's reign.

YITZCHAK PERLOW

Petah Tikva.

Our rabbis have long since said: "He who has compassion for his fellow human beings - God has compassion for him" (Shabbat 151b).

Our rabbis have also long since said: "He who has compassion for his fellow human beings - that is proof that he is of the seed of our Father Abraham" (Betz 32b). But for Perlow and his ilk - our rabbis were plainly wasting their breath.

PENFRIENDS

CHRIS MONTROYA (24), of 6713 Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19142, would like to have Israeli penfriends of his age.